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ON THE UP AND UP IN 2013

AFTER ENDURING TOUGH ECONOMIC TIMES, DARRELL DEXTER PREDICTS A TURNAROUND YEAR FOR NOVA SCOTIA PAGE 4

WEEKEND, December 21-23, 2012 **HALIFAX** metronews.ca | twitter.com/metrohalifax | facebook.com/metrohalifax

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A holiday to remember for MacKinnon

Shining star. Halifax Mooseheads forward and Cole Harbour standout ready to play and contributé to Team Canada



Nathan MacKinnon will wake up Christmas morning far away from the comforts of

He will open his eyes in a Russian hotel room next to a teammate, who like him, is spending the holidays thousands of miles from the family gatherings and traditions he's come to love.

Still, there is no place MacKinnon would rather be this holiday season. That's because the 17-year-old Cole Harbour standout with the Halifax Mooseheads is fulfilling a dream of his - one shared by most teenagers who lace up the skates — to play for Can-

First game out of the way

Nathan MacKinnon was held off the scoresheet against Finland, and so was his Halifax Mooseheads teammate Jonathan Drouin. The two spent part of the game playing on the team's second

"It was a pretty solid game," MacKinnon said in rating his performance and that of the team. "But at the same time, we have to be a little more disciplined and get used to this officiating quickly."

Canada begins play at the world juniors in Ufa, Russia, on Boxing Day against

ada at the world junior hockey championship.

"It's different, but I'm doing something that I love. I'm having a lot of fun," he said Thursday by phone after playing in Canada's first exhibition game, a 3-2 loss to Finland. "It would be nice to be home for Christmas, but this is an excellent thing.'

MacKinnon, who doesn't turn 18 until September, is the youngest member of Team Canada, but he's still going into the tournament plenty of expectations of him.

Billed as a potential first-overall pick in next year's

NHL draft, MacKinnon will be looked upon to come to an event made up of mostly 18- and 19-year-old players and play an important role for

Whatever that role turns out to be, MacKinnon is ready to accept it. With the Mooseheads, he's on the No. 1 line and getting plenty of power-play time. With Team Canada, he could be used as a 13th forward and get the odd shift on special teams.

"I want to help the team and I want to be an impact player," said MacKinnon, who sits third in Quebec Ma-

jor Junior Hockey League scoring with 22 goals and 30 assists in 30 games. "But I'm going to do whatever role I'm given and hopefully the

team can be successful."

MacKinnon is the first Nova Scotian to play at the world juniors for Canada since 2007 and 2008, when Brad Marchand of Hammonds Plains skated in back-to-back years, each time winning gold.

MacKinnon is getting a lot of supportive emails, tweets and Facebook messages from the Halifax area and across the country, something he's appreciative of.

"The fans back in Halifax, and all across Canada, are awesome and very supportive,' he said. "It's nice to have a whole country behind

> Nathan MacKinnon of Cole Harbour is the first Nova Scotian to play for Team Canada SINCE 2008, LARRY MACDOLIGALL/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"It was a cool experience — a world junior game — it was exciting. And I'm sure every game is going to get more and more exciting."

Nathan MacKinnon on playing for Team Canada Thursday

Finland tops Canada in tune-up game

For more on Canada's loss on Thursday and a look at upcoming group opponents at the world juniors, flip to the sports section PAGE 38

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Dog bite.

Owner charged for incident involving 4-year-old

The owner of a dog that bit a young girl inside a Cole Harbour home has been charged under HRM's animal-control bylaws.

HRM spokesperson Shaune MacKinlay said Thursday the municipality had obtained a court order to hold the dog while the court process unfolds.

The owner will be in court in early January to face a charge of owning a dog that attacked another person.

The dog in question, identified as a pit bull, has been held for observation by Public Health officials since the incident on Dec. 9.

MacKinlay said the dog's

MacKinlay said the dog's fate will be decided after the legal process wraps up.

Parking ban. Police issue over 300 winter tickets

The warning was issued and some obviously didn't obey.

Halifax Regional Police say 325 overnight winter parking tickets were issued by the six officers brought in when HRM announced the ban was being put into effect Wednesday because of snow in parts of the municipality.

Spokesman Const. Pierre Bourdages said the six officers, who are paid overtime for being brought in to enforce the ban, handed out 138 tickets in the East Division (Dartmouth), 89 in Central Division (peninsula) and 98 in West Division (Mainland South and North, Bedford).

The total doesn't include tickets handed out by regular officers on duty, he said, or anyone in Halifax RCMP jurisdictions.

The overnight winter parking ban, which was lifted Thursday morning, runs between 1 and 6 a.m. when in effect. Anyone ticketed is handed a \$50 fine. PHILIP CROUCHER/METRO





Calls for inquiry into home persist

Home for Colored Children. Former residents, Liberals renew call for public inquiry



HALEY RYAN

Tony Smith says he will not rest until a public inquiry into the Nova Scotia Home for Colored Children has been made,

whether it happens under the current government or not. "We see the oppositions fully supporting a public inquiry, so, you know, politics is like you're in one day and out the port" caid Smith

the next," said Smith.

"This story isn't going anywhere."

Liberal Leader Stephen Mc-Neil joined VOICES co-chairs and former residents of the home, Smith and Tracey Dorrington-Skinner, at a press conference Thursday to ask the premier for a public inquiry into alleged abuses at the home, which date back up to 60 years.

During the conference, McNeil said an inquiry would examine why social workers didn't come to the home to monitor care, correct records weren't kept and how to change the system so it never happens again.

McNeil said the Darrell Dexter government is not to blame over the issue, but that the NDP now have a chance to right the wrongs that happened years

ago.
"What we're asking them to do is to show the courage that is required to call this inquiry, to allow our fellow citizens to move forward," said McNeil.

"The province of Nova Scotia, all of its citizens ... have a right to know what happened

to those children," said Irene Smith, executive director of the Avalon Sexual Assault Centre, who attended Thursday's meet-

Dorrington-Skinner said that hope had been given and taken away multiple times from former residents, such as the recent RCMP investigation, which wrapped up last week with no charges laid.

with no charges laid.

"We're still hoping but prepared for the worst," she said regarding the inquiry.

When asked if McNeil considers this an election issue, he said no because it's a "moral issue" for the province.

Alleged abuse. Premier Darrell Dexter says he needs more time to consider public inquiry

Premier Darrell Dexter said he needs more time to consider whether he will call for a public inquiry into the alleged abuse at the Nova Scotia Home for Colored Children

Dexter offered no timetable for when he'll make a decision but said his government would offer a formal 'response' after speaking to various stakeholders.

"I want to make sure that the response that we have is done right," said Dexter to reporters after Thursday's cabinet meeting. "It is to me more important that it be done right rather than a knee jerk reaction."

Dexter also said there are a variety of inquiry models he's considering.

"It has to be a thoughtful process for the sake of the people who are making their claims who are wishing to express their angst and complaint over the things that

have happened to them from people who for years provided leadership in the organization," said Dexter.

Police formed a special investigative team in March to look into the claims of abuse, but found insufficient evidence to support charges.

ANDREW RANKIN/METRO



metronews.ca WEEKEND, December 21-23, 2012 metr⊕ **NEWS**



JEFF HARPER/METRO

It's been an eventful year for Darrell Dexter's NDP government, which has weathered a particularly tough fall legislature session. The opposition parties have labelled Dexter and Co. a corporate-welfare government that lacks transpar ency and accountability.

The government is projecting a \$277-million deficit.

But Dexter says he has set the platform for economic stability and newfound wealth on governmentbacked projects.

When are you going to call an election?

I said right from the beginning I intend to use as much of the mandate as I feel I need. A year ago, people said, 'You're up in the polls: Are you going to call the election right now?' I said the same thing I'm saying now. We have lots of things

You're lagging in the polls. What do you have to do to make the leap?

The seats in the House don't belong to us; they don't belong to the Liberals, the Conservatives or the news media. They belong to the people, and at some point people have to make a decision.

We've measured our program of the future against theirs. That's going to have to be critically analyzed

Premier says his party has stayed the course through some of the toughest economic times this province has ever seen. He's predicting the province will reap the benefits in the coming year.

ANDREW RANKIN

STANDING STRONG

How would grade your performance this year?

I'm not going to do that. We've worked diligently and very hard. I don't take anything for granted. All I want people to know is that the decisions that I have made — and I don't mind people disagreeing with the decisions I make — have been well researched and thoughtful.

What, of all the achievements, are you most proud of this year? Do you regret any decisions you've made?

I don't have regrets. I'm not the type of person that wallows. I try to make the bestpossible decisions I possibly

can. I reflect but I'm more focused on looking ahead.

I don't rank my achievements. The Port Hawkesbury mill investment is an important one, the Bowater land purchases are important as well as the decision to move the Lower Churchill project forward. In 10 months we've managed to get \$2-billion investments in offshore

development. Those are pretty big things.

Some people might suggest you're not the same person who led the opposition four years ago. Has the job taken

I don't think anybody who isn't doing the job can really understand the level of com-

"Whether it's our commitment to balancing the books — even when it's painful —(or) if you look at the IBM decision, all of these things were done out of the best interest of the province and to improve the fortunes of the province."

Premier Darrell Dexter

mitment that is demanded. It

is every hour of every day. Even if you are lucky to get away for a few days, you're never off your Blackberry; there's no turnoff switch ever.

If you're lucky enough to go to a movie or play, where at the beginning you're told to turn off your phone, you say, "Yes! I'm actually going to have two hours to myself." It's an all-consuming piece of work.

So, you're a basketball man. One-on-one, whom would you prefer: Jamie Baillie or Stephen McNeil?

I don't think either of them have enough game for me. And in fact, if they want a little two-on-one, I wouldn't object to that (laughing.)

Why are you so set on balancing the budget?

It is important for New Democrats to demonstrate that kind of fiscal probity, perhaps more than other parties, just because there's this notion that New Democrats fail in this area.

But if people look at NDP governments across the country, we have better records of balancing the budget than either the Conservatives or the Liberals.

What are you going to cut in order to balance the budget in the spring?

I'm not going to talk about potential cuts. There is a revenue growth every year; the question is whether spending goes up to exceed natural revenue growth. We'll have to see what the new year brings. You're going to see all those projects kick in next year that will have a positive impact on the province.

Exclusively online

To read the full interview with Darrell Dexter, go to metronews.ca



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metronews.ca weeksetN.p.december 21-23, 2012

Annual hockey game builds relationships on and off the ice

Slap shot. Match between Preston, RCMP 'good for the community'



HALEY RYAN haley.ryan@metronews.c

Members of the Preston community again showed the Mounties how it's done on the ice.

A crowd of more than 50 people watched on Thursday afternoon as the Preston Selects beat the RCMP 10-7 in their fourth-annual hockey game at Cole Harbour Place. It was the third year in a row Preston skated away victorious.

"We look forward to doing it every year. There's a lot of talk about the game," said Cpl. Calvin Byard, unit commander of the Preston RCMP. "The players on both sides know each other ... Everybody goes

Forging links

"It's just a good all-around thing."

Matthew Thomas, captain of the Preston team on the annual game against the RCMP

away with good relationships." Byard said the talent pool on both sides is fairly even, with some players coming from recreational leagues and others lacing up the skates just once a year for the game. "It shows that there is a connection between the community

and the police, and it's very competitive, which is good,"

"We got a few younger guys with fresher legs than the RCMP has," Preston team captain Matthew Thomas said, laughing, in a separate interview. "We had a good team effort and came up with a victory."

RCMP team captain Robert Taylor said it was a good game until the third period, when his team "fell off the rails a



Cpl. Calvin Byard of the RCMP Preston Patrol Unit, right, talks to Preston team player Larky Lewis between plays at Cole Harbour Place on Thursday. The RCMP took on members of the Preston community in their annual hockey matchup. JEFF HARPER/METRO

little bit."

But winning isn't the primary reason for the game

something everyone who plays will tell you.

"It's just good for the com-

munity," Taylor said.

"Just to meet with each other on common ground,

just to bond over recreational sport and bring out the best in each other."

The staff of HGS Dartmouth would like to wish you and your family a fun and safe Holiday Season!



One of two victims of Sheet Harbour homicide identified

name of one of the homicide victims found during a fire in Sheet Harbour last week.

The body of Matthew Allan Hebb, 22, of Herring Cove Road, was found on Dec. 12 in the wreckage of a burned-out camp building near Sheet Harbour.

The bodies were discovered after witnesses reported seeing a fire at a building.

Police spokesman Sgt. Alain Leblanc said the name of a second man whose body was also found in the rubble should be released in the next three to four days.

Investigation

 Two people were arrested in connection with the homicide on Tuesday but were released without charges on Wednesday.

Accident

Police probing fourth pedestriancar collision in 24 hours

Another driver has been ticketed after the fourth carpedestrian collision in HRM in a 24-hour period, Halifax police say.

police say.

The latest happened at about 6 p.m. on Wednesday on Windmill Road near Jamieson Street in Dartmouth.

A 30-year-old man was in the marked crosswalk when he was hit by a car heading south on Windmill Road. He was taken to hospital with minor injuries. The 21-year-old male driver of the car was charged with failing to yield to a pedestrian in a crosswalk and also for being a licensed learner operating a motor vehicle without an experienced driver in the vehicle.

There were two more collisions on Wednesday morning and another on Tuesday evening.

Police issued a reminder to motorists and pedestrians that road safety is a shared responsibility. Motorists need to be mindful of road conditions that could affect their ability to stop safely, while pedestrians should wait until vehicles come to a complete stop before attempting to cross the road. METRO

Man in minivan

Second indecent act reported in Dartmouth

Police are looking for a man after a child reported seeing an indecent act in Dartmouth. A nine-year-old girl was walking near Windmill Road and Henry Street at about 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday when she saw a man masturbating in a minivan. The girl ran home and told her mother, who called police. Police say they don't know if the same suspect is responsible for another indecent act reported in the same area this week. METRO

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metr⊕ metronews.ca WEEKEND, December 21-23, 2012

In 2012, it was definitely hot enough for ya

Mercury climbing.

Environment Canada names record-breaking warm temperatures top weather story



Nova Scotia's scorching spring and soggy September weren't quite remarkable enough to crack Environment Canada's top 10 weather stories of the

The forecasting agency released its annual list of the most notable meteorological events Thursday, topped by sweltering coast-to-coast

"We saw the 'Big Heat' very clearly this year," said Environment Canada senior meteorologist David Phillips. "In Atlantic Canada, when you combine (winter, spring, summer) it was the warmest and driest."

Phillips also singled out Superstorm Sandy and the outrageously mild March for recognition.

number of records broken in that March heat wave," he said, adding the national "hot spot" for the month was Lake Major, N.S., on March 22, at 30

Phillips said this was the sixteenth year in a row Canadian temperatures were normal or above normal, and said it's time to start planning for warmer and more extreme weather events.

"It's not just about burning less fossil fuels, it's more about expecting that it will rain in heavier doses and maybe we should think about whether we've cleaned the eavestrough, do we need a sump pump now," he said. "I think cities should encourage people to adapt, with incentives ... to weatherproof ourselves a little

In Nova Scotia, the executive director of the Fruit Grower's Association said "weather-proofing" fruit trees requires more time and money for re-

"The federal government provides funding for research, but needs a 25 per cent cash contribution from the indus-

Top 5 weather stories:

- 1. The Big Heat
- 2. Super Storm Sandy -Active Hurricane Season
- 3. B.C. Flooding Larger, Longer and Lethal
- 4. March's Meteorological
- 5. Summer on the Prairies Warm. Wet and Wild

try," said Dela Erith. "That's an impossible thing to meet.

Erith said climbing temperatures bring new insect and disease pressures, and warned the industry won't be able to combat those without more support from consumers.

"If the growers ... can't pay for the research that's required to support the growth and production of a healthy product that's consumer friendly, then we have a problem," she said.



Transfer reductions not so bad after all: MacDonald

Nova Scotia's finance minister says federal officials have assured her that a reduction in federal transfer payments to the province won't be as bad as she initially expected.

Earlier this week, Maureen MacDonald said the reduction could have an impact on the NDP government's bid to balance its budget by next spring. However, MacDonald

However, MacDonald now says the province will be getting about \$15 million less than it expected. a relatively small reduction considering the province has a \$9-billion budget. Still, MacDonald says

every dollar counts as the province's projected deficit for this fiscal year is projected to hit \$277 million — a \$66-million increase when compared with the budget tabled last April.

"We have a very steep hill to climb," she said Thursday after a cabinet meeting. "Revenues have soft-

ened. Nova Scotia is in the same boat as many other provinces. Misery company and we have lots of company'

MacDonald said there are a number of provinces struggling with growing deficits, including Alberta, New Brunswick and Newfoundland and Labrador.

"What's occurring in the economy is a softening of revenue.... It's impacted all

MacDonald said depart-

• Maureen MacDonald declined to talk about potential budget cuts, saying she wanted to consider her options during the holiday break.

mental spending is under control, but provincial rev-enue has dropped by \$90 million, mainly because of a

\$61-million decrease in projected income tax revenue.

The expenditure side is looking very good," she said. "Departments are coming in at or under budget and we will continue to maintain that discipline.

The minister said the process of balancing the books will be challenging.

"It's not going to be easy to get back to balance in the current climate," MacDonald said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Fit to stand trial

Man accused of shooting his wife to stand trial next May

Nine days have been set aside for the first-degree murder trial of a man accused of shooting his estranged wife two years ago in a parking lot. Wayne Paul Eisnor is

scheduled to be tried by judge and jury in Nova Scotia Supreme Court beginning May 13.

The 48-year-old Barss Corner man is accused of fatally shooting 42-year-old Tina Mae Eisnor outside a New Germany grocery store in June 2010 before turning the gun on himself. Last month, a Nova Scotia Supreme Court judge upheld a ruling that Eisnor was fit to stand trial. THE CANADIAN PRESS/CKBW

October election

Clarke campaign received nearly \$120K in donations

It took more than \$100,000 in campaign donations for Cecil Clarke to secure the mayoralty of the Cape Breton Regional Municipality in October's election. In a list of campaign donors released by the CBRM



returning office Wednesday, the mayor racked up \$110,875 in cash donations and another \$8,883 from in-kind contributions. CAPE BRETON POST

Muskrat Falls

Hydroelectric project gets assurances

The Nova Scotia government has agreed to make no regulatory or legislative changes that would have an impact on the Muskrat Falls hydroelectric project while it is being reviewed by the province's Utility and Re

view Board. The agreement with Emera Inc. allows the company that owns Nova Scotia Power to continue its plans for a subsea link from Newfoundland with some financial certainty.

The so-called stability agreement was a require-ment of a federal loan guarantee for the Nova Scotia portion of the project, which is expected to save about \$100 million in borrowing COSTS. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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NEWS 11

Flights cancelled. Air Canada refuses transport of primates

A Canadian regulator has ruled that Air Canada is within its rights to refuse to transport primates that are being used for research.

A Canadian Transportation Agency tribunal issued its decision Thursday, dismissing the complaints of health research groups arguing the airline should be required to carry the animals. It says that Air Canada's (TSX:AC.A) restrictions are reasonable and aren't discriminatory because the carrier risks losing passengers who disagree with research using primates.

The original complaint against the air carrier's policy came from Steven Liss, vice-principal of research at Queen's University, and the Public Health Agency of Canada. They argued the policy unfairly discriminates against them.

They said the tribunal should consider the effect that the refusal to carry the primates would have on the well being of Canadians, the country's international competitiveness and its economic growth.

Queen's University also argued that it was unfair to only exclude animals being used for research, when other animals are routinely transported on flights. The university says that finding other methods of research could cost it between 10 to 15 per cent more per animal.

However, Air Canada argued that it has received 47,000 letters from the public protesting its transport of primates being used for research, and some people threatened to stop travelling with the airline if it didn't refuse to carry the research animals.

The agency accepted in its decision that Air Canada had a legitimate concern of losing passengers that far outweighed the possible loss of income they earn from transporting the primates.

The regulator also said the decision makes business sense for Air Canada, and is increasingly a practice in the aviation industry.

It says there are options available to those who want to ship the animals, and that no international agreement explicitly requires the Canadian government to use air carriers to transport the animals.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



The 13 to watch in 2013

Portraits of society's rising stars were photographed at the corner of Yonge and Dundas in Toronto on December 19, 2012. Front row-Lindsey Stewart, Dane Clark, Patrick Gunning. Middle row-Amanda Lee Kew, Grant van Gameren, Cara Gee, Shadya Yasin, Jordan Subban, Dr. Samir Sinha. Back row-Maria Franke, Dr. Danielle Martin, Yu-Ling Cheng and Giant panda Er Shun. Lucas OLENIUK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE.

Milky Way

Scientists set their eyes on five new planets

Five new planets orbiting a sun very like Earth's own have been detected just 12 light years away, an international team of astrophysicists reports.

One of those planets sits in the "habitable zone" just far enough away from the star Tau Ceti to support water and thus life similar to Earth's.

Tau Ceti is a celestial neighbour in our Milky Way Galaxy, visible just by looking up at the night sky. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Animal grave

Marineland animal graves to be inspected

The provincial Environment Ministry is poised this week for a sweeping inspection of Marineland's mass graves of animals — graves it had no idea existed because the park has no permits.

The Niagara Falls tourist attraction has dug pits for decades to dispose of its animals, using heavy machinery to cover them up, according to former staffers.

The graves are near the Welland River.







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metronews.ca
WEEKEND, December 21-23, 2012

NEWS 13

London. Assange gives speech from balcony of the Ecuadorean Embassy

WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange emerged for a rare public address Thursday, praising jailed U.S. soldier Bradley Manning in an address delivered from the balcony of the Ecuadorean Embassy in London.

Addressing supporters on a cold and wet English evening, the 41-year-old Australian looked fit and healthy despite half a year spent trapped inside the small apartment he shares with diplomatic staff.

He gave no hint that he would end the standoff, which has seen him spend six months as a fugitive from European justice, saying he was holed up at the embassy for fear of the U.S. investigation into his activities.

"While this immoral investigation continues, and while the Australian government will not defend the journalism and publishing of WikiLeaks, I must remain here," he said.

While the U.S. Justice Department has launched an investigation into WikiLeaks' spectacular disclosures of U.S. secrets, Assange is currently wanted by police over allegations of sexual assault stem-



ming from a trip to Sweden in mid-2010.

in London. The associated press

Many WikiLeaks supporters have suggested that the allegations are a ploy to extradite Assange, first to Sweden and then to the U.S. The Swedish government and Assange's alleged victims deny it.

Assange's address listed a series of jailed figures, including Bahraini human rights activist Nabeel Rajab and alleged Anonymous hacker Jeremy Hammond

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Breezy Point's tree of hope

Hand-painted stars painted by children hang from a scorched tree among the ruins of houses in the Breezy Point section of New York, Thursday. One hundred homes in the neighbourhood were burned to the ground during Superstorm Sandy. MARK LENNIHAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Feds refusing to hand over documents: Lawyer

The Canadian government cannot be allowed to renege on a legal deal with aboriginal people simply because sticking to the terms would cost too much, an Ontario court heard Thursday.

At issue, a lawyer for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission said, is the government's refusal to organize and turn over millions of records related to what he called "the highest level of human tragedy" — the Indian residential school system.

Those records, lawyer Julian Falconer told Justice Stephen Goudge, go to the commission's core mandate of creating a comprehensive and lasting account of the shameful century of abuse.

"One day the light switch went on that this was a really expensive obligation, so history gets changed," Falconer said. "It's all about money."

The commission is asking the courts to clarify the government's obligations under the multibillion-dollar settlement reached in 2007 with victims of the Indian residential school system.

The cost of truth

In the 1990s, thousands of victims sued the churches that ran the Indian residential schools and the Canadian government. The suits were settled in 2007 and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission was set up.

- The commission worries that Ottawa's intransigence will make it impossible to complete its work, as required, by 2014.
- Some estimates of the cost of turning over the records are more than \$100 million.

Terms of the settlement included creation of the truth commission now led by Justice Murray Sinclair.

While Ottawa has turned over about one million documents to date, 23 of 24 government departments have now refused to provide the materials and millions of records remain outstanding.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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metronews.ca metronews.ca WEEKEND, December 21-23, 2012

Reserve land attracts mining giants

Ring of Fire.

Leafs jersey and breakdancers the price of doing business in Marten Falls

For Christmas, Chief Eli Moonias received a Toronto Maple Leafs jersey autographed by Wendel Clark.

His remote northern Ontario community of Marten Falls got 50 turkeys and a visit from Santa, laden with children's gifts.

And in March, the 61-yearold chief will be granted his wish of travelling to China — if he can get his passport in time. They're all gifts from min-

They re all gitts from mining companies who need the chief's support to develop what could be a world-class basemetal discovery.

Moonias's community sits next to what has become known as the Ring of Fire. Marten Falls is a small fly-in reserve - just three streets of houses for about 300 people at the junction of the Albany and Ogoki rivers. It's in the middle of one of the only forests in the world that has never been touched by industry, an area that hosts six of Canada's biggest rivers. About 130 kilometres to the north of the reserve, multinational miner Cliffs Natural Resources wants to develop a

huge chromite mine to make a key ingredient in stainless steel. The firm brought Marten Falls the Christmas turkeys.

Next door, Toronto-based Noront Resources wants to mine nickel and other base metals. Noront employees chipped together to bring the Leafs jersey, Santa and an entertainment troupe of breakdancers. Co-operation from First Nations is essential for both companies, and for anyone else wanting to do business in the remote James Bay lowlands.

"If you don't reassure me, that's when I say no," Moonias says in an interview at the band's resource office, wall-papered with maps and surveys. The CANADIAN PRESS



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metronews.ca WEEKEND, December 21-23, 2012 **NEWS**

Health and wellness.

Flu virus is picking up steam — just in time for the holidays



ırse draws a syringe of seasonal flu vaccine during a health fair and flu shot clinic in Ohio in 2009. THE CANADIAN PRESS FIL

Flu activity seems to be surging just in time for the holi-days in several parts of the country.

Health officials warned Thursday that transmission of the nasty virus is picking up steam. They urged people to take precautions against catching and passing along the illness, including getting

a flu shot.
"We are seeing a lot of influenza in the hospital. And anecdotally, a lot of people that I work with or people who work with them have been calling in sick in the last couple of weeks," said Dr. Michael Gardam, head of infection control at Toronto's University Health Network.

The season is off to its earliest start in several years and is a stark reminder of the unpredictability of the influenza virus.

Last year's flu season started so late - and was so mild, in relative terms - that for most of the season it seemed like the winter that flu forgot.

The timing of influenza's peak doesn't indicate how hard or moderate a flu season this might be. But with so much illness happening around the holidays, the opportunities for people to pick up a flu infection are pretty much ideal, experts say.

"We have long recognized that the holiday period is a chance for greater social mixing," said Dr. Danuta Skowronski, an influenza expert at the B.C. Centre for Disease Control in Vancouver. Disease Control in Vancouver.

"We sometimes refer to influenza as the original Grinch who stole Christmas because it can transmit more when there are people gathering in large numbers indoors."

Dr. John Spika of the Public Health Agency of Canada said that more than 25 per cent of tests for respiratory infections in Quebec are coming back positive for influenza at this point.

Ontario is seeing roughly the same amount of activity

Although it takes a couple of weeks for flu vaccine to build up a person's antibodies against the virus, there will be flu circulating for awhile still. Skrowronski said. People who are sick should try to keep their germs to themselves. "Don't come into work, don't go to that Christmas party if you're feeling really ill," Gardam said.

and the Prairie provinces are reporting that about 15 per cent of respiratory tests are positive for flu, said Spika, who is director general of the agency's centre for immunizations and respiratory infectious diseases.

Even the Atlantic provinces have been getting into the action over the past week or so, he said. (Flu seasons in Canada typically start in Brit-ish Columbia and work their

way east.)
"Usually what we say is when they hit 10 per cent, we're into the flu season, Spika said to put the percentage figures into context.

Spika suggested activity in British Columbia may have actually peaked, but Skowronski said the numbers she's seeing suggest the virus-

es are still going strong there. "We're still seeing indications of climbing activity, and primarily due to H3N2 subtype viruses."

In fact, the influenza virus H3N2 is the predominant strain circulating all across Canada at the moment, making up about 80 per cent of the viruses tested. H3N2 typ-ically causes more severe illness, especially in seniors, Spika said.

He and others urged people who haven't had a flu shot yet to get one.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Skiing accident

Father and sons rescued at resort

For the second time in less than a week, rescuers have been called out to help people who went out of bounds in a B.C. ski

In the latest case, a father and his three sons got lost Wednesday after leaving the marked ski area of the Revelstoke Mountain Resort, east of Kamloops.

RCMP Const. Dan Moskaluk says the father used his cellphone to alert authorities.

He says a search-andrescue helicopter found the group and dropped supplies to them but was not able to get them out because of the weather and approaching darkness until the next morning.

On Tuesday, a snowboarder was rescued after he went out of bounds at the Cypress Mountain resort.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

South Africa

Toad stowed in candlestick

It's a real-life Mr. Toad's

Wild Ride.
Animal-rescue officials in South Africa say they found a toad from China hidden inside a porcelain candlestick.

The Star newspaper of South Africa quoted animal expert Brett Glasby in Cape Town saying that workers had to break the candlestick to get the

toad out.

He said the toad, an Asian Common Toad, can slow its breathing and heart rate to survive times of drought, likely aiding it to survive the voyage.

Workers fed the hungry toad worms and crickets after freeing it.

The animal is not endangered.

But because the toad is a possible invasive species for South Africa, workers have to put the animal down.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NOTICE

CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR'S

Collection & Processing Services Garbage/Organics/Recyclables

Christmas Day

Residents of Halifax Regional Municipality are advised that there will be no municipal garbage, organics or recyclables. collection services on Christmas Day (Tuesday, December 25, 2012). Collection services for that day will be provided on the preceding Saturday, December 22, 2012.

New Year's Day

There will be no municipal garbage, organics or recyclables collection services on New Year's Day (Tuesday, January 1, 2013). Collection services for that day will be provided on the preceding Saturday, December 29, 2012.

No Collection Christmas Day Tuesday, December 25, 2012	\$	Collection will occur Saturday, December 22,, 2012			
No Collection New Year's Day Tuesday, January 1, 2013	➾	Collection will occur Saturday, December 29,, 2012			
Otter Lake Facility Closed Christmas Day, Tuesday, December 25 Sunday, December 30, 2012 New Year's Day, Tuesday, January 1, 2013	♦	Otter Lake Facility Open December 24 & 31 – 7:00 am to 6:00 pm December 26 & January 2 – 7:30 am to 6:00 pm			
HRM Recycling Plant Closed Christmas Day, Tuesday, December 25 New Year's Day, Tuesday, January 1	➾	HRM Recycling Plant Open December 24 & December: 26 – 7:30 am to 6:00 pm December 31 & January 2 – 7:30 am to 6:00 pm			

Collection services can begin as early as 7:00 a.m. To ensure collection, residents may place materials curbside the evening prior to collection day. The HRM's residential Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Depot will be closed Saturday, December 22nd and Saturday, December 29th, but will be open on Saturday, January 5th, 2013 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

After the Holidays...

- Natural Christmas trees will be picked up on your organics collection week; they must be free of plastic, tinsel, ornaments, metal rings, nails, stands and plastic tree bags
- Compost or mulch your greenery (boughs, trees, etc.)
- Wreaths with metal wire frame or plastic cord go in your garbage bag
- Recycle paper gift wrap free of ribbons, bows and ornaments; place in a grocery bag
- Non-paper gift wrap and foil wrap: place in your garbage bag
- Corrugated cardboard: tie and bundle for recycling
- Boxboard (shoe and cereal type boxes): place in your green cart
- Recycling/re-use tips: save gift wrap, bows, ribbons, cards, etc....for use next year; give old toys and clothing to a charitable organization

Thank you and have a safe and happy holiday season. For more information on HRM's composting and recycling programs, check your 2012/2013 collection schedule or visit our website at www.halifax.ca/recycle.







metr⊕ metronews.ca WEEKEND, December 21-23, 2012

Supreme Court split on freedom to testify in a veil

Balancing act. Ruling states each judge must weigh religious rights and right to a fair trial

A sharply divided Supreme Court of Canada was not able to definitively rule Thursday whether a woman can wear a religious veil known as a niqab while testifying in court.

In a rare 4-2-1 split decision, the Supreme Court ruled that a witness can cover their face in certain circumstances.

The case pitted two protections in the Charter of Rights and Freedoms against each other - religious freedom versus an accused person's right to a fair trial.

The practical effect of that decision was to pass the case back to an Ontario trial judge that had just begun a preliminary hearing.
In this case, a Muslim



woman sought to wear a niqab while testifying against two men she claims sexually assaulted her as a child.

The two men claim the charter allows them to confront their accuser and observe her facial expressions as she

testifies. Due to a publication ban, the woman can only be identified as N.S.

Chief Justice Beverley Mc-Lachlin wrote for the majority and affirmed the two charter rights should receive the fullest possible expression.

McLachlin spelled out a fourstep analysis that the judge at N.S.'s preliminary hearing can now use to determine the issue. The ruling will also be a precedent in other cases.

"The judge must assess all these factors and determine whether ... the salutary effects of requiring the witness to remove the niqab outweigh the deleterious effects of doing so."

The ruling told trial judges to ask themselves three questions: Would requiring the witness to remove the niqab interfere with her religious freedom? Would permitting the witness to wear it create a serious risk to trial fairness? Is there a way to accommodate both rights? THE CANADIAN PRESS



Monkey mom melancholy

Media swarm Yasmin Nakhuda as she leaves a hearing about her monkey Darwin — the Ikea monkey — with his coat in her hands at the Superior Court of Justice in Oshawa, Ont. The custody case is expected to resume in mid-January. RENE JOHNSTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

First Nations protest

Woman charged in hammer attack

A woman is facing a mischief charge after footage of her attacking a First Nations protester in London, Ont., was posted on YouTube. The video shows a

woman walking out of an apartment building, talking briefly with protesters then hitting a car with a hammer, ANGELA MULLINS/ METRO IN LONDON, ONT.

Edutainment

Teacher in trouble over drag video

In the small community of Brentwood Bay on Vancouver Island, a video featuring bikini-clad drag queens has been deemed too racy for the classroom.

Brentwood Elementary School teacher Joe Winkler showed the clip to his Grade 4 students as an introduction to transgender issues.

After parent complaints, Winkler was suspended without pay pending an investigation

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The best defence...

Teachers at Texas school to carry firearms

In the tiny Texas town of Harrold, children and their parents don't give much thought to safety at the community's lone school — mostly because some of the teachers are carrying concealed weapons.

The nearest sheriff's office is 30 minutes away, and people tend to know — and trust — one another. So the school board voted to let teachers bring guns to school.

"We don't have money for a security guard, but this is a better solution," superintendent David Thweatt said. "A shooter could take out a guard or officer with a visible, holstered weapon, but our teachers have master's degrees, are older and have had extensive training. And their guns are hidden."

In the awful aftermath of last week's Connecticut elementary school shooting, lawmakers in a growing number of states — including Oklahoma, Missouri, Minnesota, South Dakota and Oregon — have said they will consider laws allowing teach-

Community support

"I think it's a great idea for trained teachers to carry weapons.... But I hate that it has come to this."

CaRae Reinisch, resident of Elliott, a town near Harold

ers and school administrators to carry firearms at school.

Texas law bans guns in schools unless the school has given written authorization. Arizona and six other states have similar laws with exceptions for people who have licences to carry concealed weapons.

Harrold's school board

Harrold's school board voted unanimously in 2007 to allow employees to carry weapons. After obtaining a state concealed-weapons permit, each employee who wants to carry a weapon must be approved by the board based on his or her personality and reaction to a crisis, Thweatt said.

Employees also must

Employees also must undergo training in crisis intervention and hostage situations. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Slain teacher protected students from gunman



Sandy Hook shooting. 52-year-old one of six educators killed in Newtown massacre

A teacher who authorities said died trying to protect her students in the Connecticut school shooting that left 28 people dead was laid to rest Thursday.

Anne Marie Murphy, 52, was remembered as a teacher who "brought together a community, a nation, a world, now awed by her own life and death," in a eulogy by Timothy Dolan, Archbishop of New York.

Murphy's father, Hugh Mc-Gowan, said authorities told him that she died trying to

Archbisho

"Annie's life and death brings light, truth ... and love to a world often shrouded in darkness."

Timothy Dolan, Archbishop of New York

protect her young pupils. Her body was found covering a group of children's bodies as if to shield them, McGowan said.

About 15 people arrived at St. Mary of the Assumption Church in Katonah, N.Y., in a yellow school bus with "Newtown," the name of the Connecticut town where the shooting occurred, written on its side. The church quickly filled and about 100 mourners waited outside.

A Justice Department official said the country's top lawyer, Attorney General Eric Holder, would visit the town Thursday to meet privately with first responders and lawenforcement officials.

At least nine funerals and wakes were held Wednesday for those who died when 20-year-old gunman Adam Lanza, armed with a military-style assault rifle, broke into Sandy Hook Elementary School and opened fire. He killed six adults and 20 children, all of them six or seven years old.

More tributes were scheduled for Friday and Saturday.



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McGuinty wants 'locked-door' policy in schools

Security measures.

Opposition claims the initiative is a ploy to distract voters from teacher labour strife

Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty announced Thursday there would be a "locked-door" policy at all 4,000 elementary schools in Ontario by next September in reaction to last week's shooting rampage that left 26 dead at a school in Newtown, Conn.

"In the aftermath of that tragic event that unfolded in the U.S., I think there's an important question that we need to ask ourselves: Are we taking all reasonable steps to ensure the safety of our kids at school?" McGuinty said at St. Fidelis Catholic Elementary School in Toronto.

"I think the response to that question requires that



we assure parents that all of our elementary schools are locked during the day, that we are controlling access into our elementary schools, so we're going to put a locked door policy in place."

The Opposition said all parents would support initiatives to make schools

safer for their children, but questioned the timing of McGuinty's announcement. The Progressive Conservatives suggested McGuinty was simply trying to change the channel from his government's ongoing fights with public-school teachers over wage-freeze legislation, which prompted rotating one-day strikes in elementary schools this month.

tary schools this month.
"I think that the timing, obviously, would lead one to believe that this is a cynical move by Mr. McGuinty," Tory education critic Lisa MacLeod said.

"He used his final pre-Christmas media availability to talk about this when I think the issue that is really pressing on Ontario families' minds right now is the labour strife in our schools and whether or not extracurriculars are going to go on and whether or not there are going to be strikes in January." THE CANADIAN PRESS





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Volunteer veteran stands guard at California school

A Marine veteran of Iraq and Afghanistan took up self-imposed duty in front of a California elementary school in the wake of the Connecticut shooting.

Hughson Elementary School Principal Laura Fong said Sgt. Craig Pusley stood all day Wednesday in fatigues in front of the flag pole at the school just southeast of Modesto. He was not armed.

Pusley, who served two tours in Iraq and one in Afghanistan before leaving active duty last year, told Fong that "he wanted to make the kids feel safe in light of what happened at Sandy Hook Elementary," the principal said.

The veteran Marine arrived at the K-3 school a little before 7:30 a.m., Fong said, and asked permission to stand guard. He stood in front of the flag pole until 2:30 p.m., she said, without taking any breaks.

Sgt. Pusley is a father of a three-year-old and his wife is expecting another child. He told the Modesto Bee that he decided to take action after reading a Facebook post urging soldiers to be posted at every school in the wake of last week's tragic shooting in Connecticut.

"When I enlisted, I swore to defend this country from all enemies, foreign and domestic," Sgt. Pusley said. "I just want to be sure all these kids go home safe for Christmas"

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Gun control

NRA to comment on gun violence

Now that President Barack Obama has demanded "real action, right now" against U.S. gun violence, attention turned Thursday to the coming "major news conference" by the country's top gun lobby, whose power for years has contributed to the political hesitation around the issue.

The National Rifle Association has promised to make its announcement Friday — the last real work day before Washington, and the rest of the country, scatters for the long Christmas holiday. The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Weapons charges

Sask. politician appears in court

A former Saskatoon mayoral candidate has appeared in court to face charges related to an alleged disagreement at a bar.

Al Werner, a customer at the Coachman Lounge, says he and Clay Mazurkewich were having a disagreement Wednesday when the would-be politician pulled out a gun. THE CANDIAN PRESS







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Weekend of hope for survivors

Breast cancer.

Free event in B.C. offers participants yoga, meditation, snowboarding, skiing lessons and cooking classes

BROWN

This February, 10 Canadian breast-cancer survivors will have the opportunity to spend an all-expense paid weekend at RED Mountain Resort in Rossland, B.C., which will focus on health and wellness - with ski and snowboarding lessons from pro athletes.

Boarding for Breast Cancer (B4BC), the organization that funds the event, will select these participants from entries in a free lottery to be held on Dec. 28.

The weekend, called Re-Treat Yourself, is the brainchild of organizer Megan Pischke, a pro snowboarder who first got involved with raising breast-cancer awareness 17 years ago, when a fellow snowboarder, Monica Steward, succumbed to the disease at the age of 28.

"(Monica's) legacy held true with a lot of us, as far as promoting a healthy lifestyle through our sport," says Pischke.

Originally from Colorado, Pischke first offered the retreats in the U.S., but now, as resident of Canada, she is

The lottery is open to any breast-cancer survivor in Canada who has the OK from their doctor to particinate in the activities.

- To enter, you can email survivorship@b4bc.org and you will be sent an entry form.
- The deadline for entries is Dec. 28.
- Winners will be contacted Jan. 9 and the retreat takes place from Feb. 2-4 at RED Mountain Resort in Rossland, B.C.

organizing the first one here in what she hopes will become an annual event.

"I was always involved in awareness and fundraising events and then a girlfriend and I started to do these snowboard retreats," she says. "They marry my lifestyle, which was pro snowboarding, doing yoga, eating healthy and just being connected with the outdoors."

While the weekend offers 10 paid spots for breast-cancer survivors, there are also a limited number of spaces available for purchase by the general public, at a price of \$1,199, which includes accommodations, meals and all activities over the three days. The retreat offers yoga, meditation, snowboarding and skiing lessons and cooking classes by cookbook author Marianne Abraham

"When I started doing these retreats in Colorado, my goal was to have women walk away from them full of hope and inspiration and a little more educated," says Pischke.

She cites one example of a woman who attended a weekend in Colorado who told her that the meditation practices she learned on the retreat had shifted her perspectives on fear.

"I've seen a lot of women who get through this ... and they're ready to move on, yet they're still holding onto a lot of fear in their life. The meditation helped this woman so she was able to shift her perspective and move past that fear," she says.

Pischke says she's driven to offer these retreats because of the people around her who have been impacted by the

disease.

"My grandmother passed away from complications due to breast cancer and it's something I have a lot of empathy for and I really want to stand strong and do as much as I can to raise awareness. she says.

Quoted

"I've seen a lot of women who get through this ... and they're ready to move on, yet they're still holding onto a lot of fear in their life."

Megan Pischke,

Olympian admits to working as an escort

Pouble life. After reports of prostitution, runner Suzy Favor Hamilton tweets that she's been working for an escort service for the past year

Three-time Olympic runner Suzy Favor Hamilton has admitted leading a double life as an escort.

as an escort.

She apologized Thursday after a report by The Smoking Gun website said she had been working as a prostitute in Ias Vegas.

in Las Vegas.

The 44-year-old Favor Hamilton lives in Madison, Wis.
The Smoking Gun said she has been working for the past year for an escort service.

Soon after the story appeared online, Favor Hamilton released a series of tweets saying in part that she was "drawn to escorting in large part because it provided many coping mechanisms for



me when I was going through a very challenging time with my marriage and my life." A middle-distance run-

A middle-distance runner, Favor Hamilton competed for the U.S. at the Olympics in 1992, 1996 and 2000, but did not win a medal. She won seven U.S. national titles.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Crowning Miss Universe

Miss USA, Olivia Culpo, left, is crowned Miss Universe during the Miss Universe competition Wednesday in Las Vegas. Twenty-year-old Olivia Culpo, an American university student, won the title, replacing outgoing champion Leila Lopes of Angola and beating out 88 competitors from six continents.

JULIE JACOBSON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Unlucky 2013?

Good luck charms installed in Times Square

Officials in New York City have gathered good luck charms to accompany the unlucky number 13 that will light up when the New Year's Eve ball drops in Times Square.

The massive sign in the shape of the number 13 arrived in the city's iconic tourist attraction Wednesday.

The New York Post reports that 13 good luck charms will be installed along with the sign atop One Times Square for the celebration that will ring in the new year.

The charms include a four-leaf clover, gold coins and a Buddha statue. Times Square Alliance President Tim Tompkins says officials want to assuage the fears of any superstitious revellers.

More than 1 billion people

More than 1 billion peop are expected to watch the New Year's Eve festivities in telecasts and newscasts.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Deadly cruise

Italian prosecutors finish Concordia shipwreck probe

Prosecutors in Tuscany have officially finished their probe of the Costa Concordia shipwreck that killed 32 people off the Italian coast.

Prosecutors deposited some 50,000 pages of evidence Thursday with court officials. The evidence includes testimony, experts' reports and a phone recording in which Italian coast guard officials order the Italian captain of the ship to go back aboard the vessel, which rammed a reef off Giglio Island on Jan.

13 and capsized.
State TV quoted Chief
Prosecutor Francesco
Verusio as saying Capt.
Francesco Schettino risks 20
years in prison if convicted
of manslaughter and abandoning ship.

In a few weeks, prosecutors are expected to request indictment of Schettino and seven others.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



















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Drink up! Dairy producers depend on eggnog rush

Holiday season. Sales of festive drink offset temporary decline in milk consumption

As you raise a glass of eggnog over the holidays, consider that you're making the season brighter for the country's farmers. There's typically a decline in milk consumption over the holiday period as people turn to boozy beverages, and some

dairy producers say eggnog sales are key in offsetting that slump.

Andrew Taylor, manager at Hewitt's Dairy in Hagersville, Ont. said the operation sees an increase of 10 to 15 per cent in sales — usually lasting from the beginning of December until early January — and that eggnog is the beverage behind the jump.

"Overall milk sales tend

to fall in December as people tend to drink other things, usually an alcoholic beverage, so

'We rely on (eggnog). Farmers need a consistent market and it helps to maintain that consistency."

Andrew Taylor, plant manager, Hewitt's Dairy in Hagersville, Ont.

anything that compensates for that is something that we look forward to," said Taylor. morgan MODIESKI/METRO IN SASKATOON

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Y kant Canaydians spel? Blame it on the Internet



Disappearing skills.

Digital life is ruining our ability to do basic tasks such as spell properly, recall phone numbers and write by hand

Canadians may be among the world's most prolific Internet users, but it seems all that time online hasn't made us a nation of careful spellers.

Many of us often type "fa-cebok" into Google and rather than correcting the obvious mistake, let the search engine fix it. Monitoring Canadians' search habits would reveal that many, many more consistently type in "faceboo," "faebook" and "fcaebook" — but they know Google will get the point.

Others can't be bothered to tap out even eight characters and have learned that entering just "face" or "fb" will get them exactly the link they're seeking. Is that lazy or efficient? Should

"When you're typing ... vou don't have to think — (and autocorrect) thinks for you. So I was like, 'Wow, I'm really scared now when I don't have Google or spellcheck to help me out."

Matthew Thomas, 33

we thank Google's engineers for saving us a few seconds

or lament that technology is dooming us to laziness?

It seems hardly anyone can remember phone numbers anymore since we starting storing them in our mobile phones.

Outside of schools and some workplaces, the practice of putting pen to paper is becoming increasingly rare. To many, scribbling with a pen feels quaint in today's digital age. And who needs maps and a sense of direction with GPS technology to guide the way?

Wireless industry. Data use fuels revenue growth

Here's my cell number. Call me, maybe? Or maybe not. Cellphone users are doing less calling as they buy more smartphones and use the device for texting, emailing, web surfing, mobile apps, social network-

ing and watching videos.
And it's that surge in data use that Canada's telecom companies - big and small are banking on as the revenue

driver of the future. "It's no longer just your teenage kids. It's everybody," telecom analyst Brahm Eiley said. "They use their phone the

way they would use their PC." Dan Maitland has an iPhone and hardly uses it for calls. "These are not just phones," said Maitland, 39, who makes software that helps train pilots to be safer at flight simulator company CAE Inc. in Montreal. "They are small computers that have the ability to make a phone call."

Maitland said he uses his iPhone for such things as web searches, apps, accessing files for work and reading. And he

The Convergence Consulting Group expects that about 55 per cent of all cellphone users in Canada will have smartphones by the end of this year. That's expected to increase to 65 per cent by the end of 2013 and go up to 80 per cent by year-end 2016.

their data revenues in the years ahead.

are also helping drive the in-creasing use of data by consumers, Eiley added.

Rogers, Bell and Telus have been experiencing year-THE CANADIAN PRESS

is doing exactly what wireless providers expect and want him to do to help increase

Faster wireless networks

over-year growth in wireless data revenues with the rise of smartphones. By the end of this year, Eiley said, data will make up roughly 39 per cent of service revenue, which includes voice and data, for Canada's major wireless providers.

Downloading option

Keep those tweets! **Twitter introduces** personal archive

Twitter is offering its users a chance to keep a digital scrapbook of all their tweets. The tool, announced this week, is designed to make it easier for people to review all their activity on Twitter's messaging service.

When it's available, the downloading option will appear at the bottom of each user's settings menu. Twitter, which is based

in San Francisco, said it may take a few weeks before everyone gets the feature.

After a records request is made, users will receive an email on how to download their personal archive. For Twitter's earliest users, the records date back to 2006 when Twitter started.

Twitter users already have been able to peruse their past tweets by navigating to their personal profile page. But going that route is more cumbersome because it requires scrolling down a page that can sometimes be slow to display additional tweets. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market Minute



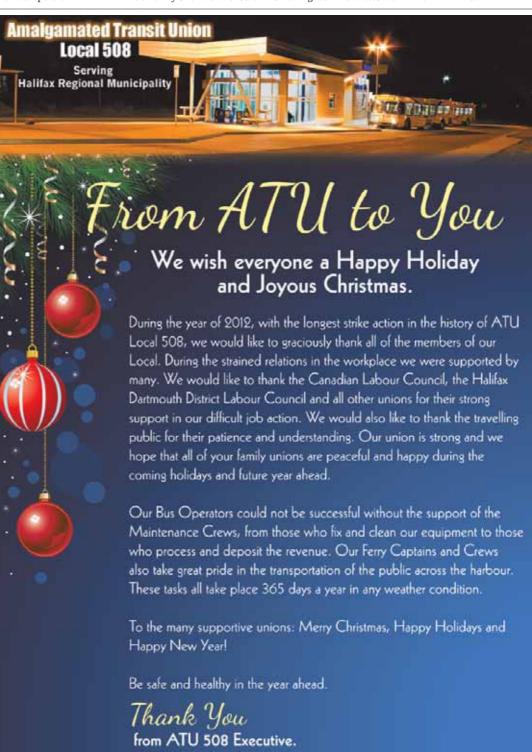
Natural gas: \$3.46 US (+14¢) Dow Jones: 13,311.72 (+59.75)



12,388.71 (-14.92)



\$1,645.90 US (-\$21.80)



metr⊕ **VOICES** metronews.ca WEEKEND, December 21-23, 2012

MAPLE SYRUP HEIST, RAPTORS BACK ON THE BALL AND A TOP-10 HIT



THE LIST

Say what? South African President Jacob Zuma maintains leadership of the currently ruling African National Congress party by defeat-

ing deputy president Kgalema Motlanthe with a dubious 75 per cent majority vote. Perhaps it's just that the robocalls had trouble pronouncing the name Kgalema Motlanthe.

Slap-happy. Researchers at the University of Pittsburgh have created a sophisticated prosthetic arm that can translate brain signals into the appropriate movements. While a definite boon for the physically challenged, I raise two concerns: You just know some rich guy is eventually going to buy a couple of extra arms for no good reason, and someone having a bad dream will end up slapping the heck out of their bed-partner.

Holy crepes. After a huge manhunt, Quebec police have arrested more than a dozen accused assailants in what will one day be known as the Great Maple Syrup Heist of 2012. Officers also recovered important paraphernalia used in the production of maple syrup, and around \$18 million worth of our nation's most delicious natural resource (I believe that's street value). The province has been dealing with controversies over corruption and organized crime, but they'll be damned if they are going to sit by and let citizens endure Christmas with dry, unsavoury pancakes.

Bac off. Dollarama has pulled two brands of cleansing wipes from its shelves after tests by CBC News revealed unacceptable levels of bacteria. It's reassuring to know that all of the other products we use to rid our skin of impurities contain "acceptable" levels of bacteria.

Kill me, maybe? The votes are in, and Carly Rae Jepsen's Call Me Maybe is the song of the year. While I am pleased for our homegirl, after the millionth listen I respectfully request, for the love of God, that someone call this girl already!

Fields of dreams. The Toronto Raptors welcomed back Landry Fields, who was cleared by team doctors after undergoing elbow surgery over a month ago. The team is on a four-game winning streak, and Fields is anxious to jump in and get them back to their comfort zone.

Winter wonders. Monkeys shopping, eagles snatching babies, cows falling from trucks — it brings to mind fond memories of something my mother used to say: "If your flying baby cries over a truckload of spilled cows, no one's ever going to buy your sharp-dressed monkey." In fairness, English was not her first language.

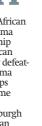
And the winner is ... Cassadee Pope. Pope is now of-8 ficially The Voice. Fans voted for The Personality as well, but to me she'll always be The Legs. Congrats, Cassadee. My favourite things. This week in 1985, Born in the U.S.A. by Bruce Springsteen surpassed Michael Jackson's Thriller as the second-longest-lasting album on Bill-

board's American Top 10. It stayed there for 79 weeks. So what mega-singing sensation is powerful enough to top these two superstars for the honour of being No. 1? At 109 consecutive weeks

Julie Andrews with The Sound of Music. Of course it was

Follow The Metro List on









Christmas circuit

Don't get blinded by the liahts

A woman walks along Natal Circle viewing Christmas lights in Gilbert, Ariz., in this photo taken earlier this As Christmas decorations

light up across the globe, take these precautions to avoid a holiday mishap. Sparkle without the spark. Turn off the electricity to the supply outlet before working with outdoor wiring. Unplug light strings before replacing bulbs and check to ensure replacement bulbs match the voltage and wattage of the original. To avoid a shock from damaged wire, use

insulated fasteners rather than metal nails or tacks to hold light strings in place. • Stay dry. Keep electrical connectors for outdoor lights above ground, out of water, and away from metal eavestroughs. Connect outdoor lighting into receptacles protected by weatherproof ground-fault circuit interrupters (GFCI). These can provide protection from electric shock by sensing ground leakage and cutting electrical power. • Put your faith in the magic of the holidays but don't fall for fakes. Avoid counterfeit electronic decorations that haven't been certified for safe use. Look for the mark from an accredited certification organization like CSA Group. NEWS CANADA

Pales in comparison

Neighbour cops out on liahts

An Arizona woman who knew she couldn't compete head-on with her neighbour's elaborate Christmaslight display is attracting attention for her response.

Using red and green lights, Kristina Green of Maricopa, Ariz., spelled out the word "ditto" and made an arrow pointing toward her neighbour's home.

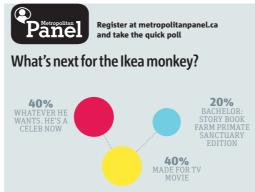
KNXV-TV reports that Green's display is made of around 600 lights. Her neighbour's setup has about 16,000 colourful lights. Green has created a Facebook page for her "ditto" sign



heats up for some neighbour-hoods, while other neighbours go with a "ditto" sign and an

Last year, a family in Beaverton, Ore., also erected the word "ditto" with an arrow on the side of their own home toward a neighbour's house as part of an online movement. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS





@HHBridges:

Continuing the tradition - no tolls on the bridges Christmas Day. Happy holidays from Halifax Harbour Bridges.

@DonnieSpicer:

@HfxReaPolice Car pedestrian accidents are preventable. We all need to pay attention!

@LauraWhalen29:

Driving in downtown halifax this time of year is actually terrifying

@JillianBlackman:

2 teenage boys just attempted to jump my agent @AngelaHaliLand & her fiancee in the #Halifax Shopping Centre Parking lot while loading car.

@HealthvHalifax:

At #Dartmouth surplus getting tires. Great people! Robert & Chris always get you best value. #Halifax



Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE AND MARK BRESLIN



This is all too familiar

Biting honesty.

Judd Apatow's latest comedy pleases with its realistic take on life in middle age

Richard: Mark, after writing that synopsis, I feel it necessary to remind everyone that this is a comedy, so mixed into this study of midlife disappointment are some keenly honed and very funny observations. It's a blend of heart and humour, frequently in the same scene, and often in the same sentence. When Pete says to Debbie, "We're like Simon and Garfunkel and you turned me into Garfunkel," it's a funny line, delivered well, but also a loaded one that places his unhappiness front and centre. It's that kind of writing and performance that makes you laugh and cringe at the same time. What did you think?

Mark: It's Apatow's best movie, but not necessarily his

funniest. The comedy comes intermittently in between stretches of a married couple bickering, experiencing a fi-nancial meltdown, problems with their kids and their parents. Just like real life. But I'm not sure the very funny comedy bits redeem the rest of the movie's grim and lacerating honesty.

RC: I think Apatow is trying to get that James Brooks magical mix of funny and raw emotion. The ratio might be a bit off here, but his cast — Rudd and Mann — both bring considerable likeability and comic chops, but temper that with resentment and dissatisfaction. Mann is particularly good. A scene with a hockey player who doesn't realize she is married is funny but framed with a kind of vulnerability that elevates Debbie from stock character to believable person.

MB: I found this movie less sentimental than most of Brooks' work, but the cast does make the bitter pill seem a bit sweeter. Not just Rudd and

Mann, but the smaller parts - Albert Brooks and John Lithgow as their respective fathers. Jason Segel as the insufferable personal trainer and Apatow's own daughters as the couple's siblings, all work wonders. And two comic set pieces late in the movie - when most directors would be sprinting to the finish line — one with Charlene Yi, the other with Melissa Mc-Carthy — are comedy gold. Your favourite funny bit?

RC: I loved everything to do with the Graham Parker storyline. As the retro rock act Rudd's character is trying to promote, Parker - who was one of my 1970s real-life punk rock heroes — gamely allows himself to be the butt of a lot of jokes, including my favourite from Chris O'Dowd, who says, "It's hard to watch a band when you know all of them were alive on D Day.'

MB: Casting Parker was such an inspired choice! I hope that life will imitate art and people will get interested in his music again. But the

This is 40 takes place in the week between Pete and Debbie's (Paul Rudd and Leslie Mann reprising their roles from Knocked Up) 40th birthdays. Although Debbie lies about how old she is, larger problems include constantly warring kids (Maude and Iris Apatow), an empty bank account made worse by a freeloading father (Albert Brooks), an embezzling employee and relationship doubts triggered by Debbie's loaded question, "If I hadn't gotten pregnant 14 years ago, would we still be together?"

- Richard: ••••
- Mark: ••••

movie is full of such inspired offbeat picks. That was Tatum O'Neal as the realtor and radio talkshow hero Phil Hendrie who attacks Rudd after the bicycle crash.

From writer/director JUDD APATOW



THIS IS 40

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Action



Django Unchained

Director. Quentin Tarantino

Stars. Jamie Foxx, Christoph Waltz

.

Whatever you think of Quentin Tarantino, his movies stand out in an industry full of mediocrity. Django Unchained, the filmmaker's homage to the spaghetti western, is certainly no different — casting Jamie Foxx as the titular slave-turnedbounty hunter. Aided by a smooth-talking "dentist" (Waltz), Diango strives to save his wife from a plantation owner played by Leonardo Dicaprio. Hypnotic dialogue and Tarantino's sense of retro-style keep Django smartly entertaining, albeit a bit long at 165 minutes steve cow

Action



Jack Reacher

Director. Christopher McQuarrie

Stars. Tom Cruise, Rosamund Pike

. . . .

Tom Cruise channels the macho swagger of John Wayne and Robert Mitchum in this refreshingly unpretentious, highly entertaining mystery thriller. Cruise plays an exmilitary cop who is called in to aid defense lawyer Rosamund Pike in profiling another soldier who has murdered five civilians. Of course there's more to the serpentine case than meets the eye. Jack Reacher gets an extra star for casting cult German director Werner Herzog as a reptilian psychopath.

CHRIS ALEXANDER

Drama



Cirque du Soleil: Worlds Away

Director. Andrew Adamson

Stars. Erica Linz, Igor Zaripov

• • • • •

The problem with making a Cirque du Soleil movie is that the company's acrobatic shows are more spectacle than the medium of cinema truly allows. And these days, that's saying something. Worlds Away (which is a virtual "greatest hits" from seven Cirque shows) tries to thread a narrative throughout, but even that's lost amongst the thrilling stunts that are still more impressive on stage than in a 3D film. STEVE GOW

Musical



Les Misérables

Director. Tom Hooper

Stars. Hugh Jackman, Russell Crowe. Anne Hathaway

....

Chances are, if you're excited to see Les Misérables, you already know what you're in for. Based on the hugely popular stage play, this brooding musical (there are no dance numbers here, folks) stars lackman as a reformed thief who adopts the daughter of a prostitute in the years following the French Revo-lution. There's no denying the grandiosity of staging and the device using actors' live vocals leads to impressive performances, but the windy one-takes are just as wearisome.

STEVE GOW



Parental Guidance





IT STARTS NOW Streaming Products Friday, Dec. 21 to Monday, Dec. 31 B&W A5 & A7 Contemporary Furniture Audio Furniture Denon Cocoon Cambridge Audio (Stream Magic) Bugatti Belisle **Moon Mind** Linea Vincenzo Eztia Sanus Sonora **Speakers** Headphones Electronics B&W Focal (JMIab) Grado Denon Paradigm AKG Marantz Turntables Dynaudio Koss Onkyo Cambridge Audio Pro-Ject Shure Mordaunt Short Sim Audio (Moon) Focal **Reel Acoustics** B&W DCM

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www.peakaudio.ns.ca Visit our showroom today! metronews.ca WEEKEND, December 21-23, 2012 **SCENE**

Metro's 10 must-see films from the past year



This may finally be the year that well-made big-budget studio fare finally gets some respect, a cause championed by the likes of Christopher Nolan. Which is awkward, because we were expecting more from his Dark Knight Rises, but he didn't quite stick the landing. If nothing else, 2012 proved to be a delightfully diverse year at the movies. Some runners up for this list include best picture front-runner Argo, Mi-chael Haneke's Cannes favourite Amour and Quentin Tarantino's Django Unchained.

Cloud Atlas

A big, bold, far-reaching tale encompassing six different stories - and six very different visual and genre styles — to explore the enduring power of love and mankind's struggle for freedom. The Wachowskis and co-director Tom Tvkwer packed a lot into their 172 minutes, adapting David Mitchell's gorgeous novel into something vital and engrossing.

Zero Dark Thirty

Director Kathryn Bigelow and screenwriter Mark Boal follow up their wins for the Hurt Locker with an even better film tracking the decade-long manhunt for Osama Bin Laden, buoyed by a performance by Jessica Chastain that should earn her a best actress Oscar. The film's greatest feat is presenting all of the facts without an ounce of politicization.

The Impossible

This true-life tale of a European family separated during the 2004 tsunami is incredibly manipulative, but it is some of the most artful, effective manipulation ever committed to film, and for that it deserves respect. It's a harrowing, unflinching look at the struggle for survival that puts viewers through the emotional wringer.

Beasts of the Southern Wild

A startling debut with a six-

year-old unknown star (Quven-zhané Wallis) and a look and feel unlike anything seen before, this charming and moving fable is a rare treasure, a visual poem with an equally enduring score co-written by director and co-writer Benh Zeitlin.

Cabin in the Woods

Joss Whedon had one of the year's biggest hits with the Avengers — which nearly made this list as well — but his real triumph this year comes in cowriting this sharp and hilarious deconstruction of the horror movie genre. Once the movie's real game is revealed, the film's giddy energy is infectious.

Rust and Bone

Oscar-winner Marion Cotillard turns in another striking and poignant performance as a whale trainer who loses her legs during an accident at work and rediscovers the beauty of life with the help of a down-on-his-luck bruiser of a single father (Matthais Schoenaerts).

Daniel Day-Lewis is of course the main attraction here, seamlessly transforming himself into the 16th president, but he shares the screen with a dizzying array of fantastic supporting performances, the best of which was Tommy Lee Jones, Lee Pace and James Spader.

Keep the Lights On

Writer-director Ira Sachs mines his own romantic past with aching honesty to tell the story of two men trying to love each other and ignore each other's addictions for nearly a decade. It's an unflinching portrayal of

Anna Karenina

Director Joe Wright and actress Keira Knightley team up for their third literary adaptation - after Pride and Prejudice and Atonement — with this gorgeous and risky translation of the Russian classic. The staging and style are mesmerizing, and Knightley shines, but the real standout here is Iude Law in a

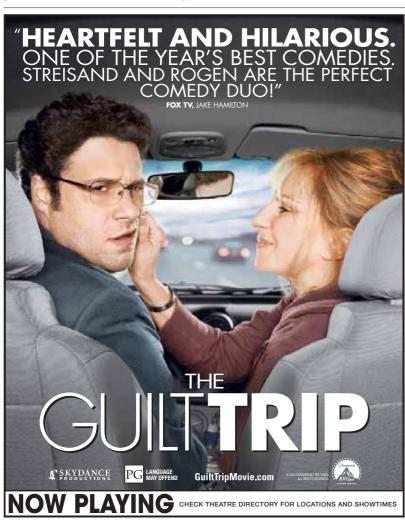


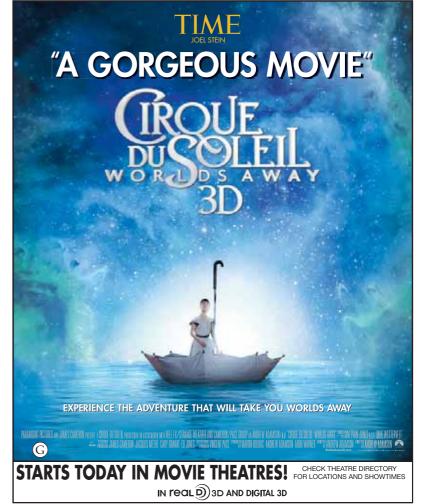


career-redefining turn as the cuckolded Alexei Karenin.

Skyfall

Mendes leads the James Bond franchise to a new benchmark in quality just in time for its 50th anniversary, imbuing Daniel Craig's 007 with just the right amount of fun and '60s swagger.





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WEEKEND, December 21-23, 2012

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12:30-3:40-7-10:10

Mon 12:10-3:20

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Cirque du Soleil: Worlds Away (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1-7 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon 11:15 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue 4:20-6:50-9:40 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed-Thu 1-3:45-7-9:10

Cloudburst (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 11:45-4:40-6:25-10:15 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon 12:05-3:15

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The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (14) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue 7:25-10:45 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed-Thu 6:30-10:40

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Lincoln (PG) Fri 6:30-9:40 Sat-Sun 3:45-7-10:10 Mon 11-2:30 Tue-Thu 3-6:30-9:40 White Christmas (G) Sat-Sun 1

Park Lane 5657 Spring Garden Rd. 902-423-4860

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This Is 40 (STC), Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 12:15-3:20-6:40-9:45, Stadium Seating Mon 12:15-3:20, Stadium Seating Tue 3:10-6:45-9:45, Stadium Seating Wed-Thu 12:20-3:30-6:50-10:05

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Lower Sackville 760 Sackville Dr., Downsview Plaza 902-869-2022

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Dartmouth

Dartmouth Crossing 145 Shubie Dr., Dartmouth Crossing 902-481-3251

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metronews.ca WEEKEND, December 21-23, 2012 **SCENE**

When the tunes brought us together rock and rumble

A social song.

Beck harkens back to a time when music bonded the masses

Beck Hansen wants you to think about the way music has changed over the last century, and what that means about how human beings engage each other these days.

Labouring over the intri-cate and ornate details of his new Song Reader sheet music project, he was struck by how social music used to be something we've lost in the age of ear buds.

'You watch an old film and see how people would dance together in the '20s, '30s and '40s. You'd go out and people would switch partners and it was a way of social inter-action," Hansen said. "It's something that was part of what brought people together. Playing music in the home is another aspect of that that's been lost. Again, I'm not on a campaign to get people to take up songs and play music in their home or anything. But it is interesting to me, the loss of that, what it means.

Beck hopes the Song Reader inspires some of us to pick up instruments and limber our vocal cords. It includes 20 songs annotated on sheet music that's been decorated in the style popular in the early 20th century when the songwriting industry was a thriving enterprise with billions of songs sold.

The 42-year-old singer notes in the book's preface that Bing Crosby's Sweet Leilani sold an estimated 54 million copies in 1937, meaning about 40 per cent or more of the U.S. population was engaged in learning how to play that song. They were touching it directly, speeding it up, slowing it down, changing the lyrics and creating something

"There's popular bands now that people know the words to their songs and can sing along, but there's something about playing a song for yourself or for your friends and family that allows you to inhabit the song and by some sort of osmosis it becomes part of who you are in a way, he said. "So when I think of my great-grandparents' gen-erations, music defined their lives in a different way than it does now.

Beck proposed the idea to McSweeney's Dave Eggers in 2004 and it soon blossomed into something more ambitious as the artist wrapped his mind around the challenge of not just writing a song, but presenting it in a classic way



...When I think of my great-grandparents' generations, music defined their lives in a different way than it does now."

Beck Hansen

that also engages fans who might not be able to read music or play their own instruments.

They quickly agreed it would make no money, but it seemed like an idea worth exploring.

"And it seemed like only Beck would have thought of it," Eggers said in an email to the Associated Press.

"It's a very generous pro-ject, in that he wrote a bunch of songs and just gives them to the world to interpret. That's a very expansive kind of generosity and inclusiveness that we're happy to be part of. On a formal level, we love projects like this, that are unprecedented, and that result in a beautiful object full of great art and great writing. And it all started with Beck It's a testament to his groundbreaking approach to everything he does."

Beck hopes fans will record their own versions and upload them to the Internet so those songs grow into something more universal.

As for his own recorded music, that's a little more complicated.

Beck's not sure where he's headed at the moment. He recorded an album in 2008, but set it aside to work with Charlotte Gainsbourg on IRM, which he wrote and produced. He's also been writing songs for soundtracks and special projects and producing artists like Thurston Moore, Stephen Malkmus and Dwight Yoakam. All that has left him feeling creatively satisfied, but he does acknowledge it's been a while since he released Danger Mouse-produced Modern Guilt.

He says in many ways he's reached a crossroads he's not yet sure how to navigate.

"This last year I've been thinking about whether I'd finish those songs (from 2008), whether they're relevant or worthy of releasing. I know that doesn't sound very definitive," he said, laughing, "but that's the kind of place I'm in — in this kind of limbo — and, um, yeah.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Smashing Pumpkins to smashing heads. Billy Corgan finding success as wrestling promoter

Billy Corgan had a night off from the latest Smashing Pumpkins tour and a night out with The Blue Meanie.

No, that's not the next upand-coming band with a colour-ful name, along the lines of the White Stripes or the Black Keys.

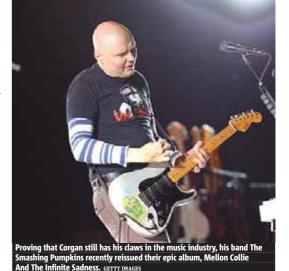
The Blue Meanie is a professional wrestler — yes, hair and beard dyed cobalt blue to match his worn T-shirt - and Corgan was his tag-team partner for a Friday night road trip to an independent wrestling show in New Jersey. His next Smashing Pump-

kins concert was a night away, and Corgan wasn't going to miss it.

The musician-songwriter is more than just another celebrity immersed in wrestling as some sort of quirky promotional stunt.

Corgan's childhood fandom of the high-flying moves and outlandish story lines morphed into a serious passion for the craft and real-life drama that goes with it.

For the past year, the Smashing Pumpkins' frontman has worked as the behind-thescenes brainchild for the Resistance Pro Wrestling promotion out of Illinois. He teamed with R-Pro owners, brothers Gabe and Jacques Baron, to raise the diminished expectations that usually come with a typical weekend indie show and make



The entertainment industry has long tried to wrest its way into the wrestling

- Mr. T and Lawrence Taylor main evented WWE cards.
- Aretha Franklin, Kid Rock and John Legend have all performed at Wrestle-Mania.

the company a smashing success over the first 10 cards.

Stretched out in a Philadelphia hotel room, Corgan explained he's in the wrestling business for the long haul.

"I like that it makes people uncomfortable," Corgan said. "I like that it's not an easy thing to explain. I like when it's great, it's amazing; when it's bad, it's really, really bad."

Corgan's music career has pretty much been all great since he founded the seminal 1990s alternative-rock band that keeps churning out acclaimed records, like their latest, Oceania," even as they endured a breakup, lawsuits, and multiple lineup changes.

He shifted his talents to R-Pro as the creative director, where he consults with wrestlers and maps out old-school story lines with a modern twist to keep the promotion strong. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



metronews.ca
WEEKEND, December 21-23, 2012

The hardest working man in music

David Guetta. Today's most popular DJ talks about the benefits and drawbacks of the Internet and gives us his ultimate playlist

RICHARD PECKETT

David Guetta, one of the most worked with musicians today, spoke to Metro about working with Will.i.am, the social networking revolution and who are the most talented DJs of today.

How would you describe your relationship with Will.i.am?

He's a friend. We've known each other since I produced I Gotta Feeling and anything that he comes out with is always genius, so I kind of trust him with closed eyes.

What's he like to work with?

He's like a bit of a crazy scientist who has difficulty in only doing one thing at a time.

We just open the mics up and he doesn't write any-



thing — it just comes out of him — and it's impressive to see that. He's a party guy and that's my life.

What do you think of the i.am+ and social networking?

You know, I started organizing raves when I was very young and it was against the law. Radio and TV were not playing our music in France and the only way to have

events and DJ was to keep tight with the people who were from the scene. It was text messages, phone numbers, flyers, stuff like this, you know.

So now of course with technology, it's evolving, but it's the same principle, only it's not just my city, but the world. Literally anything that allows me to share my passion and get closer to the fans is great.

So you think that the Internet and YouTube are a positive for the industry?

Amazing, absolutely. It's made music so democratic because it's cheap to produce music to a professional quality and you can also market it through a laptop. Nowadays, it's about creativity, the music itself and it's not like the head of the record company, the head of a TV channel and the head of a

David Guetta's ultimate NYE playlis

- 1 David Guetta ft Taped Rai. Just One Last Time (Extended Mix) (What A Music)
- 2 Ludacris ft Usher & David Guetta. Rest Of My Life (Extended Mix Edit) (Def lam)
- 3 Rihanna ft David Guetta. Right Now (Def Jam)
- 4 Alesso. Clash (Refune)
- 5 David Guetta & Nicky Romero. Metropolis (Jack Back)

- 6 Thomas Gold. MIAO (Fly Eve)
- 7 Daddy's Groove. Turn The Lights Down (David Guetta Re-Work) (Jack Back)
- 8 Chuckie & Junxterjack. Make Some Noise (Cr2/Big
- 9 Tony Romera. Pandor (Protocol)
- 10 David Guetta ft Ne-Yo & Akon. Play Hard (Edit) (What A Music)

radio channel are going to sit down over lunch and decide who's the next star

Do you think that there are more talented DJs today?

I don't think that there are more talented people around now but there are more opportunities for them to expose their ability. Talent is about continual good ideas and a career. It's way more competitive. Everything is so fast. It's easier to rise and also quicker

to fall.

You played to 3 million people last year on Copacabana Beach in Rio de Janeiro. Do you prefer bigger venues? Not necessarily, I love both.

Not necessarily, I love both. I really love playing Pacha in Ibiza, but now those kind of venues are a little small for me. This New Year, I'm going to play Mamita's Beach, Playa del Carmen in Mexico, which isn't as big but I love Latin and South America.





metronews.ca WEEKEND, December 21-23, 2012 **SCENE**

Maintaining the voice that made his career

Italian tenor. Andrea Bocelli talks about his new album, ignoring the luxury items in life and his belief in the goodness of people

AMANDA QUEIRÓS

The Italian tenor who gave a pop touch to classical music confesses his love for opera, soccer and good food and explains how he keeps his voice and his popularity worldwide

At the age of 54, the Italian tenor Andrea Bocelli

reaps impressive numbers for an opera singer. On Jan. 29, he releases Passione, in which he sings in six lan-

He spoke to Metro about the mix between popular and classic music that made him famous across the

Why have you decided to merge classical and popular music?

Actually, I try to split them up. Classical music and pop are two different universes, each with its own difficulties, peculiarities, depth and artistic dignity.

Of course, in presenta-tions in arenas, I try to sing classical music to propagate it better. I do not really like the term crossover. I also have no need to label what

What are the sacrifices de-

manded by your career? The most difficult in my profession has always been the separation of those who

In regards to that, I especially think about my parents and how brave they were to teach me how to be brave by sending me to study far from home when I was still a boy so I could have a better life

How do you preserve your

I never stop trying to per-

FURNITURE

fect the technique. This lesson I learned from my friend and great tenor Luciano Pavarotti. He taught me to sing effortlessly and give the best of myself something essential, or otherwise there would be no more singing at my age.

I follow a strict diet before tours and opera seasons, having an almost monastic life, forgetting wine, coffee, pasta and other important joys of life.

The opera singer in general is a gourmand and refuses to be limited — and I'm no exception. But one problem is the reflux, almost a "working disease" of singers, which requires me to be more careful at the table.

GALLERIES'





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Have a merry little (and slightly odd) Christmas



SOUND CHECK

Assuming the world doesn't end. we're still scheduled to have Christmas. Here are three more holiday songs that are a little out of the ordinary

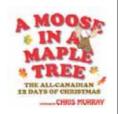


We Three Kings/Cai.ro

An interesting orchestral version the carol based on everyone's 10th century Ďuke of Bohemia. Good for Fleet Foxes fans.

The 12 Days of Christmas/Chris Murray

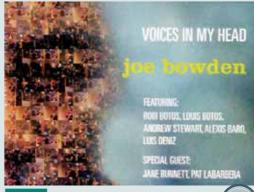
From A Moose in a Maple Tree, which also includes tracks from Tegan & Sara and Johnny Bower. Yes,





Santa's Doing the Horizontal Twist/Kay Martin and the **Body Guards**

A risqué Vegas nightclub act released this on their 1962 album, I Know What He Wants for Christmas...But I Don't' Know How to Wrap It!



CD Pick

Listen to the Voices in My Head

Looking for a great gift for that jazz lover on your list? If so, Joe 'Jojo' Bowden's newly-released debut recording, Voices In My Head, is perfect. Combining the

hard edge of jazz improvisation with the solid backbeat of rhythm and blues and featuring all original music, Voices In My Head highlights Joe's intimate understanding of synchronicity, musicality and versatility. For a sneak peak, visit metronews.ca/ scene. metro

Could it be boiling-over drama on Downton Abbey this season?

Interview. Downton's cook weighs in on life on set and gives us a taste of how things may pan out for the Crawley family and their minions in the third season

STEPHEN ERAMO

In 2010, a British-American period TV drama called Downton Abbey took the world by storm. Three sea-sons later, fans still eagerly tune in to watch the latest goings-on in the lives of the aristocratic Crawley family and their servants, all of whom live together in the fictional Yorkshire country estate of Downton

Abbey. Keeping everyone wellfed is Downton's cook, Mrs. Beryl Patmore, played by the lovely and talented Lesley Nicol. Although it was two years ago, she will not soon forget her first time stepping foot into Downton as Mrs. Patmore.

"I should explain that all my scenes are shot at Ealing Film Studios in London," says Nicol. "The kitchen, the servants' quarters and hall, and the corridors are all sets at Ealing, and then an hour away is Highclere Castle (which plays as Downton Abbey). They shoot all the upstairs scenes there, and because Mrs. Patmore, for legitimate reasons. doesn't stray far from her kitchen, I rarely get to Highclere.

"So for me to film a scene in the library with Hugh Bonneville (the Earl Grantham) was extraordinary, not only be-

"Although I can't speak in detail, I can say that in season three, you'll see much more of Mrs. Patmore and Mrs. Hughes banding together ... which was wonderful to investigate."

Lesley Nicol

cause it's such an amazing room and building, but also to watch my character go from the safety of her kitchen to be with her boss, who she hardly knows and is scared of. That was very memorable for me and great fun, too."

A skilled cook who knows her away around a kitchen, Mrs. Patmore can sometimes be a bit bossy, especially with the younger staff. She means well though and Nicol hou well, though, and Nicol has been able to show viewers that along with other facets of her character.

"What's brilliant about (series creator/executive producer/writer) Jul-ian Fellowes is that he gives you one aspect of a character, and then be-cause of circumstances you see another side," says the actress. "So when, for instance, we find out "So when, about Mrs. Patmore's nephew, who was appar-ently shot for cowardice (in the military), that up a other seam her life and reveals a very vulnerable woman.

"Although I can't speak in detail, I can say that in season three, you'll see much more of Mrs. Patmore and Mrs. Hughes (Phyllis Logan) banding together rather than opposed to each other,



Lesley Nicol plays Mrs. Beryl Patmore, Downton's sometimes bossy ION LIMITED 2012 FOR MASTERPIECE

which was also wonderful to investigate.'

With Downtown Abbey renewed for a fourth season, Nicol will once again be reprising her role of Mrs. Patmore, and that suits her just fine. "It's a lovely job and I feel very blessed to be in it," she enthuses.

DOWNTON ARREY SEASON THREE PRE-MIERES IAN. 6 ON MASTERPIECE ON PBS. ALL THREE SEASONS BEGIN AIR-ING ON VISIONTV ON JAN. 2 AT 9 P.M.

Holiday Hours

December 1 - 23 Monday - Saturday Sunday EXTENDED HOURS 10 am - 6 pm

December 24 December 25 & 26 Dec 27 BOXING DAY SALE 8 am - 9 pm

9:30 am - 9 pm

9:30 am - 5 pm MALL CLOSED

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MIC MAC MALL

It's like I've been

Training for this all

Life as they knew it, changed for good

Bomb Girls. Meg Tilly talks about her role as a floor supervisor at Ontario's Victory Munitions during WWII, and how female perspectives were forever altered

ANNE BRODIE

scene@metronews.c

The Second World War brought Canadian women out of the home and into the workforce. Thousands were employed in an Ontario munitions factory, helping in the war effort, earning their own pay cheques and standing on their own two feet as their men fought overseas. Bomb Girls, starting season two Jan. 4 ET/PT at 8 p.m., continues as they navigate life at Victory Munitions and on the home front. Meg Tilly plays Lorna the floor supervisor:

Lorna's a great leader. She's stoic, efficient and level headed. But her home life

is unstable.

That's what I love about her. Everybody has light and dark and joys and sorrows and they're all intermingled. There is no good one or bad one. We finished season one with her pregnant and pregnant women aren't allowed to work on the line. Lorna has always been a by-the-rules person and the whole situation changes her. season two, because of this, she's not so rigid. She's broken several rules. She did things that were wrong if you're going to go black and white. I think she's got more compassion and sees more shades of grey. That's

How did the work change women?

It contributed to the feminist movement. All these capable women who were underutilized found themselves out there doing useful things. Usually women would be born in a town, be raised in the town, marry and die in the town. And all of a sudden women made decisions. They came from all over the country to work in the plant. It's really important to show

the change that happened with women. Everything changed, that's what (The Second World War) was to us. The focus is usually on the sacrifices of the men, but now we see the women and how they changed our country and how they effected change. And now I see that time so differently. I think back to my grandparents. I wish they were alive now so I could talk to them about what their experiences were like. People are lucky if they still have people alive who can talk about it. It wasn't that long ago.

What happened to the women after the war?

That was a shock. Those were the dark years, some of them call it. All of a sudden it was over. And the men came home and it was changed. And everyone's trying to pretend it was exactly the way it was before the war and it wasn't. Everyone was dealing with this huge shift and women lost loved ones, fathers, brothers, lovers, husbands and they're dealing with other loss, loss of identity and self. They worked and grew and bloomed and

felt useful for something other than baby rearing and cleaning the house, and then suddenly they had to ask for permission to buy a hat. I remember seeing interviews from this one woman. She said it only takes so long to clean the house. You're working hard, and then it's gone. And the woman said, "Until I had my baby, those were the dark years."

Bomb Girls is topical, with references to events in Oshawa or the possibility of Nazi planes flying over Canada.

I didn't know how close we came to ... I didn't know. The storylines are amazing. I read (Second World War) tweets every day — 3,000 killed in bombing in England and you see photos of the streets and think, "Wow, how is it possible?" I didn't realize the extent of what happened. You read Hitler meets with so and so. Hitler says he's not invading anyone, and then he invades.

There were Nazi prison camps in Canada?

I know. I didn't know that. And that's in the show.









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METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES



Stewart and Pattinson host Christmas party

Kristen Stewart and Robert Pattinson are reportedly getting pretty domestic, even going so far as to host a small Christmas party for their friends, according to Hollywood Life. "Kristen and Rob had a small, intimate Christmas tree decorating party on Sunday. They have a gorgeous tree set

up at Kristen's, where Rob pretty much lives now," a source says. "They are not living with each other, but they are spending plenty of time with each other and they do sleep over often. They are in a really magical place right now despite some lingering trust issues on Rob's side."

The Word



Oddcouples of 2012



WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.d

Rosario Dawson and Danny Boyle

A 22-year age difference hasn't stopped director Danny Boyle and actress Rosario Dawson from "canoodling" all over London, per the brilliant and descriptive London press. The May/December romance apparently bloomed on the set of their new movie Trance. Was it the Olympics' bizarre opening ceremony that took Dawson's heart?

Simon Cowell and Carmen

The rumours are kind of true:

"She's not my girlfriend,"

"She's not my girlfriend," Cowell, 53, explained when he called in to On Air with Ryan Seacrest yesterday about the rumours between the two stars. "We're people who date." How very "bro" of Simon.

Avril Lavigne and Chad

Kroeger
To the surprise of most, the singers got engaged this year after quietly dating for six months, Lavigne's rep confirmed to People magazine. "A romantic relationship blossomed as they spent time writing together," the rep says. This will be the Canadian singer's second marriage after splitting from Sum 41 frontman Deryck Whibley in 2009. Kroeger "makes her so happy," a source tells the magazine. "Both of their families could not be more excited."



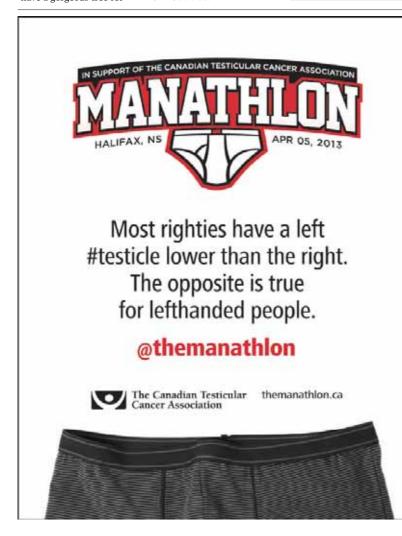
She's just not that into you

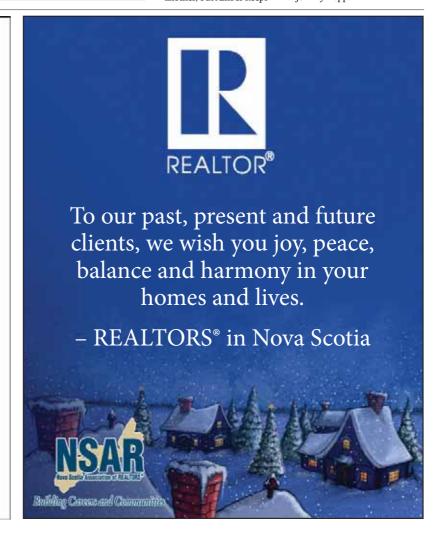
Newly single Johnny Depp is reportedly hung up on his Rum Diary co-star, Amber Heard

The only problem is the feeling isn't exactly mutual, according to Radar Online. "Johnny and Amber have been having a lot of fun spending time with one another, but Amber keeps

telling him she's not interested in being with him in a monogamous relationship," a source says.

"She says she feels she's too young for him, but the main factor is Amber prefers dating women over men and has no interest in committing to a guy — even if he is Johnny Depp."





Santa's cookies 2.0



These cookies have a chocolate intensity that balances with their buttery richness, and when piped onto a baking tray, they look like chocolate kisses. They are a good addition to a holiday cookie tin.

- 1 cup (250 ml) unsalted butter, at room temperature
- . 1 cup (250 ml) icing sugar,
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) vanilla extract • 1 1/2 cups (375 ml) all-purpose
- 1/3 cup (80 ml) Dutch process
- cocoa powder, sifted • 2 tbsp (30 ml) cornstarch
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml salt)
- 1. Preheat the oven to 325 F (160 C) and line 2 baking trays with parchment paper.

2. Cream the butter and icing

sugar together until smooth. Beat

in the vanilla extract.

3. Add the flour, cocoa, cornstarch, and salt, and beat until evenly incorporated.

4. Spoon the soft cookie dough into a piping bag fitted with a large plain tip, and pipe 1-inch (2.5 cm) "kisses" onto the baking trays, leaving a 2-inch (5 cm) space between

5. Bake the cookies for 12 to 14 minutes, until they lift away from the parchment paper without sticking. Let the cookies cool completely on the tray before removing. The cookies will keep in an airtight container for up to 3 days. FROM ANNA OLSON'S BACK TO BAKING

Holiday baking. As the undisputed queen of sweets, Anna Olson knows a thing or two about delicious treats

CLAPSON

Whether it's gingerbread, vule logs or some shortbread, with the holiday season comes the sweet smell of desserts in the air.

Food Network personality Anna Olson took some time out of her busy baking schedule to chat about what she's whipping up for the holidays. And, no surprise, she is as sweet as sugar!

What's the first memory you have of baking over the holidays?

Making Cherry Walnut Icebox cookies with my grand-

I still make these cookies each year. It's not Christmas without them.

Do you and your family have any Christmas traditions when it comes to the baking?

My mom and I book a day each year to bake our family recipes as well as make per-

Then we go out for dinner to toast our accomplishment – and so we don't have to do any more dishes!

Fruitcake always gets a bad rap. Where do people go wrong with it?

I think people don't think you can alter the fruit and nut combination, but you have a great deal of flexibility.

So long as the total measurement of fruit and nuts is the same, feel free to switch out the candied peel for dried cherries or cranberries, or re-



place the prunes with figs!

Any tips to ensure a sturdy gingerbread house that will stand the test of time and also small hands picking candy off of it?

For a gingerbread house that needs to remain intact for more than a week, then it really shouldn't be made to be eaten. In this case, use vegetable shortening instead of butter in the cookie dough. For an icing that holds up well, use a recipe that calls for meringue powder. It sets up firmly but it's also easy to work with when soft.

A Christmas cookie can take many shapes and forms. What is your go-to variety?

Other than my Grandma's Cherry Walnut cookies, I must have my Toblerone Shortbread onhand the entire month of December.

Your love for baking and sweets is undeniable, but is there one thing you don't like to whip up in your kitchen?

I've never really clicked with rum balls. I always pass them over if they are on a cookie platter and I don't make them

Last, but perhaps most important, do you leave milk and cookies out for Santa on **Christmas Eve?**

You bet! I need to stay on the

Liquid Assets

White wines for zombies with Santa hats?



LIQUID ASSETS

I write this column assuming the world hasn't ended today. If I'm wrong, here are some red wine suggestions to match with turkey for all you roaming hordes of zombies who may or may not have taken over the earth.

One of the wine world's most heinous old wives' tales is that white wines only go with white meats and red wines only go with red meats. If something has to end today, please let it be that thick slice of baloney.

You have to think about more than the star of the meal when it comes to a liquid pairing. Considering all the side dishes means a meal featuring the grand gobbler can cast a wide net catching many red wines.

For some outside the box drinking, think a mid-priced Italian Chianti, a robust Rioja from Spain or a fresh flavoured merlot from California, Australia

As a long time pinot-file, I tend to crave a fruit-forward pinot noir when carving. New Zealand knows its way around the grape and the 2011 Oyster

Bay Pinot Noir

(\$19.95 - \$24.99)

oozes ample very berry fruit that should appeal to all of your table mates, whether alive ... or living dead. Нарру holidays! PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE



Sharability

























metr⊕ **WEEKEND** metronews.ca WEEKEND, December 21-23, 2012

This holiday, entertain like Martha

Martha Stewart. She doesn't do appetizers, won't serve red wine and — surprise! sends email invites. The domestic guru shares tips for hosting the perfect party

CHADHA

Dream of hosting epic gettogethers that will spread like wildfire on Instagram and Pinterest, but have yet to organize something more involved than cheese and crack-

You, aspiring hostess, need a thought-out game plan, so we checked in with domestic powerhouse Martha Stewart (consider it an early Christmas present).

"I always have a Christmas open house," she explains. "This year, I've decided to do

Here, she takes us through her personal party prep. Take notes, people!

Start with the right company "The first thing I do is create

Here are Martha's top tips

- Mingle. "Make sure you make guests and acknowledge everybody's presence. Try to matchmake a little with the people that you think should meet each other.
- Please be seated. "I like to set the table for a plated and served dinner unless I'm having a very large crowd. When creating a seating chart for

served dinners, I always break up couples and seat new people next to one another. I also always put myself in the least-comfortable spot. For a crowd larger than what my tables will hold seated, I will serve a buffet dinner."

Pre-pour. "Having cocktails pre-made ensures you won't spend the whole party fixing drinks and you can instead devote your attention to your guests."

my guest list. I have a basic list of my friends and then people who I've added to it throughout the year. I send out a savethe-date. Then I send out an email invitation — but it's embedded in my email so it opens immediately. You don't have to go clicking here and clicking there. It's very important to me. I don't click on an envelope that opens up. Right click here and down-load pictures — I don't go for

Plan vour menu

that stuff."

'Next I start on the menu. What do I really want to What do I really want to serve? After the menu planning comes the shopping list."

Dive into a theme

"Two weeks before the party, make sure vou have everything you need for decorating and (put it up). We lost a lot of trees in Sandy, so I'm using a lot of fallen trees as decoration. All my big trays are slabs of wood cut from the trees that fell down. And I made beautiful coasters from three-inch-diameter branches that are sliced very thinly. You have to think of a theme - is it woodland or what is it? I have a theme for all of my parties. I think it's fun.

Create signature drinks

"Make a really good drink from fresh juices, the best ingredients and serve it in beautiful glasses. I'll also serve white wine. I don't serve red wine in my house because I don't want people to spill it - unless it's a seated dinner. We're going to have homemade bloody marys with homemade tomato juice, homemade tomato juice, eggnog and hot mulled white wine. You have to be a little creative, thoughtful and ad-



cing dinner? Skip apps

"I don't like serving appetizers because I always have really good food and I don't want people to get stuffed on appetizers. I rarely have them, and if Í do it's really something simple, but special — like homemade puff pastry cheese straws right out of the oven."

Martha Stewart
On why it's better to go right to the mains







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> Have a few gaps in your schedule you're looking to fill? Whether you're hoping to dance, drink or just relax, check out these hot upcoming events.



Capella Regalis Men and Boys Choir

Directed by Nick Halley, the choir cele-brates its third annual To Bethlehem With Kings concert with a Christmas performance in Halifax. A traditional and heartwarming evening of beautiful carols for Christmas, ancient and modern, performed by a choir of 12 boys (ages 7-14) and 12 men. The concert, hosted by First Baptist Church on Sunday at 7 p.m., includes hymns for audience participation, Paul Halley playing pipe organ, and the Maritime Brass Quintet. Tickets: 422.1270 ext. 261.



On Display: **Emerging Artist** Series

The Art Gallery of Nova Scotia is pleased to announce a new solo exhibition, Craig Francis Power: Les Fleurs du Mal. Craig Francis Power is a writer, curator and visual artist from St. John's Newfoundland and Labrador. He embraces the narrative format of the hooked rug as a platform for storyboarding his unique and graphic personal responses to some of life's more uneasy topics.



Last chance to Dance: The **End is Near**

Join those few souls hoping to ring in Armageddon with some great music and fine drinks on Friday night. For only \$10, The Seahorse Tavern has graciously offered to host the countdown to the end of the world. Dress in your best for The Leader, skip the Kool Aid and enjoy the musical talents of We're Doomed, Black Moor, The Motorleague and Bloddy Diamonds.



On Stage: Handel's Messiah This weekend, don't miss

out on this moving musical masterpiece. Symphony Nova Scotia performs this great work with special guest conductor Alexander Weimann, one of the most in-demand baroque instrumentalists in the world. Along with four guest soloists and the 80-member Symphony Nova Scotia Chorus, Alexander brings his trademark blend of emotional drama and Baroque authenticity to this holiday favourite. Visit: symphonynovascotia.ca.



Rocking New Year

Celebrating its 19th year, this show certainly knows how to ring in the New Year. Hosted by CTV Morning Live personalities Cyril Lunney, Heidi Petracek and Tina Simpkin, the high-energy event will feature more than two hours of live entertainment, including Charlie A'Court, Bruce Guthro, J.P. Cormier, and Lennie Gallant. The celebration New Year's Eve at Grand Parade will start at 9:30 p.m.





Classy New Year: Rouge Fatale & Friends NYE Show

Are you all ready for a fantábulous frolic with Miss Fatale and friends for their New Year's Eve Extravaganza? Well, you better, because the lovely ladies are back to bring you a night to remember. Come out and see these ladies work the stage with impersonations, group numbers, and of course lots of laughs. The show starts at 10:30 p.m.



Toy in the Tub Event

Donate a new toy and receive a 15% discount on all purchases.

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IES ASTE Team Canada forward Boone Jenner, front, takes out Team Finland forward Markus Granlund during the world junior championship in 2021 Both Jenner and Granlund will be back with their respective teams in Ufa, Russia, at this year's tournament. MATION DEBUTTETHE CANADADA PLANS Walke-up call for junior

Wake-up call for juniors in pre-tourney game

World juniors.

Canada assessed nine penalties in exhibition loss to Finland

It was an early wake-up call for Canada's world junior team.

Undisciplined and out of sorts, the Canadians dropped an exhibition game to host Finland 3-2 on Thursday. Two of the Finnish goals were scored with a 5-on-3 power play during a game that saw Canada assessed nine minor penalties in total.

"I think the challenge for us obviously is coming together as a team," said Canadian coach Steve Spott. "It's our first game. But ultimately I

Queted

"You want to make sure when you hit the 26th that your team is where you need it to be."

Canadian coach Steve Spott

think discipline is the subplot here tonight, where we have to get used to the standard of officiating and deal with our discipline a lot smarter than we did tonight."

Miro Aaltonen scored the winning goal 7:16 into the third period. Markus Granlund and Ville Jarvelainen had the power-play markers earlier in the game

lier in the game.
Griffin Reinhart and Mark
Scheifele replied for Canada
with goals 36 seconds apart in
the second period while Mal-

colm Subban finished with 19 saves

Canada was outshot 22-15 overall and Spott expects to see a better offensive effort when his team faces Sweden in another exhibition game on Saturday.

"I think we've got to create more offence, but that comes from staying out of the penalty box," he said. "That to me is going to be our challenge here. We turned over too many pucks, took penalties and that took away from

our 5-on-5 ability to create offence."

Canada played without forward Jonathan Huberdeau, who served the final game of a four-game suspension for abusing an official in the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League.

The team also lost forward Brett Ritchie to an upper-body injury after an awkward collision with an opponent midway through the game. He was held out as a precaution and the injury isn't considered serious.

After facing Sweden over the weekend, Canada will travel to Ufa, Russia, for the world junior hockey championship. It plays its first game there on Dec. 26 against Germany. THE CANDIAN PRESS

Group

A look at the countries competing in Canada's group at the world junior hockey championship in Ufa, Russia.

- Russia. Call the Russians a tournament favourite with home-ice advantage, a star-studded lineup and experienced goaltending. The Edmonton Oilers made Nail Yakupov the first-overall pick in the NHL draft this year after choosing Canada's Ryan Nugent-Hopkins No. 1 in 2011. Yakupov has a strong supporting cast around him. A country is lucky to have one goaltender with previous tournament experience and the Russians have two
- Slovakia. The Slovak lineup was heavy with Canadian Hockey League players in previous tournaments, but no longer. Most of the roster is from an under-20 Bratislava club team that plays some games in the elite league. The exception is New York Rangers prospect and Peterborough Petes defenceman Peter Ceresnak.
- United States. Seventh in 2012 was the worst result for a U.S. team since they were eighth in 1998. Defenceman Jacob Trouba, forward J.T. Miller and goaltender John Gibson are the returning players from that team. Trouba was the ninthoverall pick in the 2011 draft by the Winnipeg Jets. The Americans will be coached by former NHL defenceman Phil Housley.
- Germany. The Germans return to the top-tier championship after they were relegated in 2011. The player to watch is Tobias Rieder, a Kitchener Rangers forward and fourth-round draft pick of the Edmonton Oilers.

NFL

Giants should get boost from return of receiver Nicks

The return of New York Giants wide receiver Hakeem Nicks to practice Thursday after missing the previous day with a sprained left knee could only bode well for his on-field rapport with quarterback Eli Manning.

Nicks, who has 53 catches for 629 yards and three touchdowns, says he expects to be healthy enough to face the Ravens on Sunday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA

Wolves snap OKC's win streak

J.J. Barea scored 14 of his 18 points in the fourth quarter and the Minnesota Timberwolves ended Oklahoma City's 12-game winning streak with a 99-93 victory over the Thunder on Thursday night.

Kevin Love had 28 points, 11 rebounds and seven assists and Nikola Pekovic had 24 points for Minnesota. But it was Barea who was the key, scoring 12 straight at one point for the Wolves to hold off the team with the best record in the league. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Levett back with Rainmen



Tyrone Levett is back with the Halifax Rainmen.

The all-star forward who played last season with Halifax was re-signed by the National Basketball League of Canada team on Thursday after being released by the Moncton Miracles.

The Rainmen traded Levett to Moncton this past off-season.

off-season.

"Trading him away this summer was extremely hard to swallow and we have certainly missed his defensive presence and offensive spark this season," Rainmen president and CEO

Andre Levingston said in a release. "We know that Tyrone's incredible work ethic and talents will serve as a huge asset to our team, and we are confident that our fans will join us in welcoming him back with open arms."

Levett will be in the Rainmen lineup on Friday when they host the Summerside Storm at the Metro Centre at 7 p.m.

In other roster news, the team has released Darnell Hugee, who has been recovering from a concussion since Nov. 25. METRO



NHL just a shot away from pulling the plug on season

Lockout letdown.

With labour talks at an impasse, cancelling the season may soon be Bettman's only option

The NHL has moved one step closer to calling off another season because of a labour dispute.

games Regular-season through Jan. 14 were wiped

off the schedule on Thursday afternoon, setting up a potential timeline for the league's collective-bargaining negotia-tions with the NHL Players' As-

It was likely the final batch of games that will be cancelled during the lockout. If commissioner Gary Bettman holds true to his word that the league must play at least a 48-game schedule with playoffs ending in June, the next announcement from the league will either be a new CBA or a second cancelled season in eight years.

"When it gets to the point where we can't play a season with integrity, with a representative schedule, then we'll be done," Bettman said earlier this month. "If you go back in history, in '94-95 I think we played 48 games. I can't imagine wanting to play fewer than that."

A total of 625 games have been cancelled because of the current lockout, which represents 50.8 per cent of the season. The all-star game in Columbus has also been axed.

When the NHL staged a 48-game season following the 1994-95 lockout, the CBA was agreed to on Jan. 11 and the puck was dropped on Jan. 20. The regular season ran through May 3 and saw the Stanley Cup awarded on June 24 — thanks to sweeps in four of the last seven playoff series.

The league contemplated the possibility of a 28-game season in 2004-05 before finally

cancelling play on Feb. 16.

There was no statement included with Thursday's announcement of the additional game cancellations.

In an email, deputy commissioner Bill Daly declined to characterize whether Jan. 15 could be viewed as the last date to salvage a shortened sched-

Talks have been at a standstill since the NHLPA last presented a proposal on Dec. 6 in New York. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Pushing for a disclaimer

National Hockey League players are expected to be overwhelmingly in favour of an interest of disclaimer when their vote on the motion wraps up Friday.

The players appear to be pushing full ahead for the disclaimer, which would see the players' executive board give the power to Don Fehr and his leadership group to remove themselves from representing the players.

Under that scenario, the union would disband and force a court settlement to end the lockout. But that step has not been finalized vet. Torstar News Service

Hall of Famer Keys passes away at 89

Eagle Keys, a Canadian Football Hall of Fame inductee who played in the 1954 Grey Cup on a broken leg, has died at the age of 89.

Keys won two Grey Cups as a player, with Montreal and Edmonton, and also coached the Saskatchewan Roughriders to their first CFL title in 1966 before completing his gridiron tenure as field boss of the B.C. Lions. He passed away early Thursday.

It's exemplary, what he did in Saskatchewan," said former B.C. Lions kicker Ted Gerela, who played under Keys in the early 1970s. "He was the top of his game.

Gerela also praised Keys for following a tough coaching act in Jackie Parker in B.C. and rebuilding the Lions from the ground up.

"A lot of people are going to be shocked to hear that he died, like they were when (former quarterback and coaching great) Ronnie Lancaster passed away," said Gerela. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Dashing through the snow

Canada's Erin Mielzynski speeds past a pole during the first run of a women's alpine skiing World Cup event on Thursday in Are, Sweden. Seventeen-year-old American Mikaela Shiffrin earned her first career victory, winning a night slalom ahead of Swedish home favourite Frida Hansdotter. Mielzynski, of Guelph, Ont., finished fifth. GIOVANNI AULETTA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Champions League. Real Madrid draw Man United

Real Madrid will face Manchester United in a mouth-watering Champions League last-16 clash that sends Cristiano Ronaldo back to where he made his reputation, and Jose Mourinho to the club many believe he wants to coach one day.

United manager Ålex Ferguson called it "the tie of the round," and Real Madrid director Emilio Butragueno said it would be "thrilling for everybody."

In another blockbuster pairing in Thursday's draw, Champions League favourite Barcelona and Lionel Messi will play seven-time winner AC Milan.

Arsenal will face Bayern Munich, last season's beaten finalist, and big-spending Paris

Round of 16

First-leg matches are to be played from Feb. 12 to 20. Return matches are from March 5 to 13.

Saint-Germain was paired with Valencia. Also, it will be: Celtic vs.

Also, it will be: Celtic vs. Juventus, Shakhtar Donetsk vs. Borussia Dortmund, FC Porto vs. Malaga, and Galatasaray vs. Schalke.

"It's a great opportunity for our fans to see Cristiano again and also for me to meet up with Jose again," Ferguson said in a statement.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

English soccer

England moves to tackle racism

The English Football Association has approved proposals to help stamp out the resurgence of racism in the national game.

The "Inclusion and Anti-Discrimination Action Plan" was requested by British Prime Minister David Cameron after racism cases involving Chelsea's John Terry and Liverpool's Luis Suarez last season, and various fan incidents.

For instance, managers and players will have "mandatory induction arrangements" if they are new to the "British cultural environment."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Blown-call fallout being felt with playoffs on line



NFL. Seahawks can help Packers get No. 2 spot and a bye with win over 49ers

Pay up, Seahawks.

The Green Bay Packers have put the Inaccurate Reception behind them, and they've done their best not to begrudge Seattle the win that really wasn't. But karma has a way of coming back around, and the Seahawks have a chance to make things right this weekend.

"Without looking in the past, we have to root for a team we fell short to," Packers linebacker Clay Matthews said on Thursday. "So that's how it goes. We'll control our own destiny by winning these out and hopefully we can get some help along the way."

San Francisco is a game ahead of Green Bay for the NFC's No. 2 seed and Seattle plays the 49ers on Sunday night. Beat the Niners and the Seahawks can essentially get

The fail mary

The Inaccurate Reception was arguably the worst call of the NFI season

- Green Bay safety M.D. Jennings appeared to intercept a pass to Seahawks wide receiver Golden Tate in the end zone only to have it ruled a touchdown.
- The NFL said the next day Tate should have been called for interference.

the Packers back to where they would have been had replacement referees not blown that call back in September.

"I don't know if they owe us anything — not them, in particular," Matthews said of the Seahawks.

But if Seattle wants to wipe the karmic slate clean, who are the Packers to argue?

"We want home field," James Jones said, "so hopefully they get it done."

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For those without a Metro, the forecast calls for "I dunno" with a slight chance of "huhhh?"



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> For those without a Metro, the forecast calls for "I dunno" with a slight chance of "huhhh?"



BY BETTY MARTIN

T Aries

March 21 - April 20

Whatever your age or position, you are about to get the chance to move up in the world. Powerful people will be watching you closely today and over the weekend, so make sure they like what they see.

Taurus April 21 - May 21

Times are good and about to get even better. It may take two or three days for things to pick up speed but once they do, you will be on a roller coaster ride of fun and games. Hang on and eniov the experience.

II Gemini May 22 - June 21

Most likely you are reading too much into a situation that is of no real importance but for your own peace of mind, you should investigate further. If someone is trying to take you for a ride - get off quick!



June 22 - July 23

You will notice a subtle change in the way other people react to you today. But it is the way that you choose to behave towards them that will determine whether the next few weeks are going to be easy or difficult.

Ω Leo July 24 - Aug. 23

The Sun's change of signs puts the emphasis on matters of a work nature, and also on your physical health. The two are closely related. In a nutshell: If you work too hard your wellbeing may suffer. Slow down!

W Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

You don't have to do anything special today: The Sun's change of signs will do it all for you. One of the most active times of the year is about to begin, so prepare yourself mentally for what lies ahead.

△ Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

No matter how many interesting things may be taking place in the world, you must focus exclusively on the needs and desires of loved ones today. There has never been a better time to show how much you care.

M Scorpio

Oct. 2 04 - Nov. 22

Keep your options open today because there will be all sorts of new and interesting events taking place and you need to be free to react to any or all of them. Part of the meaning of life is to have fun.

Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

The past few weeks have been hectic to say the least and the momentum you have built up will keep you going for quite some time. But don't forget you have limits.

17 Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

You may be eager to get started on a new project but think before you act. Make sure you are well prepared. Any day can be a new beginning. Though, yes, this one is more special than most.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

You may be a bit more reclusive than usual today and over the weekend but there is no need to worry about it. You're not withdrawing from the world. you're just getting your thoughts and feelings in order.

H Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20

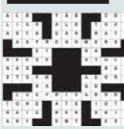
You seem to be having doubts about something that only a few days ago you thought was the best idea in the world. The good news is your doubts will pass very quickly and then you can get on and make it happen. SALLY BROMPTON

Across

- 1. Fishing need
- 4. To and -
- 7. Catch sight of
- 11. Silkworm
- 12. Make tracks
- 13. Desire
- 14. Schedule abbr.
- 15. Sale condition
- 17. Garfield pal
- 18. Seafarer's beacon
- 21. Disco proof of age (abbr.)
- 22. Select 23. Flintstone pet
- 25. Before
- 26. Magnum, P.I.'s pilot buddy
- 28. School subj. 29. — Acres
- 31. Cruise setting 32. Emergency room personnel
- (abbr.) 33. — Lingus
- 34. Smack a fly 35. Tavern brew
- 36. "Dirty Harry" actor (init.)
- 37. Eastern prov.
- 42. Cloak
- 43. Fashion magazine
- 44. Scottish cap
- 47. Barbra's "Funny Girl" co-star
- 48. Be indisposed 49. View
- 50. Hide
- 51. One of The Three Stooges
- 52. Family tree member (abbr.)

Down

- 1. Soak flax
- 2. Globe
- 3. Ringing up, old style
- 4. Flown at the 2012 Olympic
- games
- 5. Poison ivy result



See today's answers metronews.ca/ answers.



- 7. Whoop 8. Pea jackets
- 9. Mayberry boy
- 10. Casual top 16. Sandcastle spot
- 19. Wedding vows
- 20. Diner sign
- 23. German article
- 24. Quaint hotels
- 25. According to
- 26. Afternoon gathering 27. Garfield, for one
- 29. Elaborate party
- 30. Actress Witherspoon
- 31. Spring or Fall clothing
- 34. Chem. or biol.
- 35. Deviate
- 37. Point a finger at 38. October birthstone
- 39. Type of chowder
- 41. Prefix with confidence
- 42. Officer of the peace 45. Yes, to Angus

52

- 46. Actor Gibson

How to play Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and

Yesterday's Sudoku

4	0	7	6	9	2	1	3	5
6	5	3	4	7	1	8	2	9
0	2	1	3	8	5	4	6	7
ŧ	6	5	7	+	4	2	9	3
3	7	9	5	2	6	ñ	1	4
2	1	4	9	3	6	7	5	8
5	3	8	2	6	7.	0	4	1
1	9	6	8	4	3	5	7	2
7	4	2	1	5	9	3	8	8

7		8	9				4	
		3			2			1
		4			6	3		
				3		5	8	
	9	6		5				
		9	7			6		
6			8			7		
	2				4	1		5

Today

4"/2" Partly sunny



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